



The Planting Gazette

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

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"FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY."

Those of our readers who do us the honour of reading the *Gazette* literally "from cover to cover" may wonder what these words (printed at the foot of the front cover) mean and why they are there.

They are, as a matter of fact, nothing more than an expensive luxury and are there "by order." Imposing though they appear to be, they in no way relieve us of any of the pains and penalties of a libel action should we ever be so discreet as to publish anything even so much as tainted with the breath of suspicion; nor do they give us the copyright of any article that may appear in our columns, *vide* the daily papers *passim*. In the light even of our limited experience we can see absolutely no use in them, though at the same time we must admit they are entirely unobjectionable except on one point, and that the important one of expense.

Solely on account of these words we are unable to have the *Planting Gazette* registered at the Post Office as a newspaper, and in consequence the postage on each copy is ten cents instead of 2, an easily avoidable loss of eight cents on each copy, and one which (on our circulation) amounts on an average to Rs. 120 per mensem, without as far as we can see, any compensating advantages whatsoever. We also, at present, cannot sell copies (except to members of the Planters' Association who already get them free) and this means that our free list is a very heavy one. A large number of copies of each number are sent to the Ceylon Association in London for distribution among its members and that they are appreciated is proved, we think, by the reference made at the Annual General Meeting of that body, and we can see no reason why we should not be in a position to make a small charge if it considered desirable.

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This is neither the time nor the place to give an account of our stewardship, but we may state that if the embargo is removed our financial position will be much strengthened, and we therefore write this so that the question may be weighed and considered before the next General Committee Meeting of the Planters' Association.

F. H. LAYARD,
G. C. BLISS,
A. M. CARMICHAEL, } *Controlling
Committee.*

JOHN STILL, *Editor.*

We call attention to the report (appearing on pages 6-8) of the Assistant Labour Commissioner, Mr. J. H. Rutherford Lee, more particularly to what he has to say regarding the preference the coolies in the Atur, Namakal and Dharmapuri Districts, and even round our Headquarters, Trichinopoly, have to going to the Straits rather than to coming to Ceylon.

It is the old story of the kangany's treatment of the cooly through the medium of the unlimited advance system in Ceylon. And this could be stopped, to a great extent, if Superintendents would keep an account of the individual indebtedness of each cooly or family, thus offering opportunity for frequent communication between the Dorai and the man who now prefers going to Penang to being cheated by kangany in Ceylon.

In cases where accounts are now so kept, the information is always forthcoming that the coolies like it very much, but that the kangany does not, an admission which should for ever silence those who say that it is throwing too much work on the planter to ask him to undertake this much-needed reform.

The report gives an interesting glimpse into the life of those working for us in India.

We are glad to see in the Ceylon Labour Commissioner's Report, published in the August number of the *Planting Gazette*, that he was favourably impressed with Malayalam Labour and thought that there were good recruiting prospects in the Malayalam Districts. We hope

in our next issue to be able to publish the experiences of a Superintendent who has recruited and worked a large number of these coolies during the last two years.

Cannot we prevail on other planters to give us these experiences of Telugu labour or of any labour other than Tamil? Many estates would, we think, be ready to go farther afield for their labour if only they knew where to go, how to set about it, and the probable results.

We draw our readers attention to the rules framed under Section 12 of Ordinance 10 of 1912. (The diseases) (Labourers' Ordinance) as being of interest and importance to all planters; these rules have been before the Medical Wants Committee and received the approval of the members both official and unofficial. At a first glance some of these rules may seem unduly drastic and likely to involve estate owners in heavy expenditure, but in such all important matters as line sanitation and good water supply to estate labourers we feel sure that all reasonable outlay will be cheerfully met by proprietors, who will realise that money spent in preserving the health of their labour force is certainly well spent. It is to be presumed that except where outbreak of serious sickness makes immediate and extensive improvements imperative—time will be allowed over two or three years to bring all cooly lines to that state of sanitary efficiency advocated by these rules. We think the officers of the Medical Department will be more than well advised if they foster and encourage in every way by rebates and liberal supply of drugs, etc., that wish to improve the conditions of life to the Tamil labourer—which is so evident to-day—rather than try to coerce by the enforcement of very drastic rules. In this connection we note with extreme satisfaction that the very debatable matter of the compulsory establishment of latrines on estates has been allowed to stand over for the time being, and we congratulate the P.C.M.O. if he is deserving of congratulation—on his having to what we know well to be the convictions of almost all experienced and practical planters to-day. If it were possible to enforce the use of latrines, by Tamil coolies on estates, it might be wise to make their construction compulsory—but it is not.

FACING PAGE will be found a type plan of corrugated iron roof coolie lines, kindly supplied by the acting P. C. M. O., to whom our best thanks are due.

A series of plans of lines, wells, latrines &c., has been prepared by the Medical Department, and we propose to issue one with each number of the *Planting Gazette* until further notice.

[Extract from the "Ceylon Government Gazette"
No. 6,571 of July 11, 1913.]

It is hereby notified that the following rules under section 12 of "The Diseases (Labourers) Ordinance, No. 10 of 1912," applicable to the whole Colony, have been made by the Principal Civil Medical Officer, with the approval of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government in Executive Council.

By His Excellency's command,

L. W. BOOTH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, July 9, 1913.

Rules under Section 12 of "The Diseases (Labourers) Ordinance, No. 10 of 1912," applicable to the whole Colony, made by the Principal Civil Medical Officer, with the approval of the Officer Administering the Government in Executive Council.

1. Permanent lines shall be as far removed as possible from jungle and swamps. They shall be built on high ground on a dry site with efficient drainage; they shall not be situated near villages or insanitary surroundings. They shall not be situated in such close proximity to existing lines as to obstruct light and the free circulation of air.

2. Latrine buildings shall be of impermeable material throughout and properly drained. The contents of the buckets shall be regularly disposed of either by burning or burial in shallow trenches. Latrines shall be so situated as not to be likely to contaminate water supplies or to be a nuisance to the occupants of buildings.

3. A sufficient number of sweepers shall be provided on each estate to keep the lines and their surroundings clean, to bury or burn all excreta or refuse, and to keep the drains swept at least once a day.

4. In malarious districts travellers' palms, pineapples, plantains, or cultivation liable to favour the breeding of mosquitoes shall not be allowed near the lines. Pigs, goats, and cattle shall not be kept in any portion of the line buildings.

5. All lines shall be provided with drains to carry off the rain water. Such drains shall be constructed of stone, of brick rendered in cement, or of cement concrete. They shall have sufficient slope to carry the water well away from the lines, so that no swamps or stagnant pools are left. The immediate vicinity of the lines shall be on a lower level than the floor of the buildings and shall slope downwards from them, and all swamps or pools in the vicinity of lines shall be drained or filled in.

6. On all estates proper bathing places shall be provided for the use of labourers at spouts, pumps, wells, or riversides where possible, to consist of a stone or cement platform, with a properly constructed run-off drain.

7. It shall be the duty of the superintendent of every estate to provide a sufficient supply of potable water for his labour force; such supply shall be free from contamination. If wells are provided, they shall be covered, and be faced or pointed in cement for 10 feet from the surface of the ground, to prevent contamination. All water pipes shall be made of iron. Wells must have parapet walls, and be surrounded by a platform of stone, brick cement rendered, or cement concrete, 4 feet wide, and a peripheral drain to carry off waste water.

"THE DISEASES (LABOURERS) ORDINANCE, No. 10 of 1912."

Notes to Rules made under Section 12 of "The Diseases (Labourers) Ordinance, No. 10 of 1912."

Rule 1.—When possible skilled advice from the Civil Medical Department should be obtained before finally selecting a site for new lines.

A space of at least 100 feet where possible be kept clear of jungle immediately around lines.

Rule 2.—Where dry-earth latrines are used they should be of one of the two following types:—

(1) *Trench.*—1½ ft. wide, 1 ft. deep, and of convenient length. Excrement to be covered up daily.

(2) *Bucket.*—There should be provision for one bucket for every ten labourers, with a sufficient scavenging and latrine staff.

Rule 5.—No water should be stored in lines except such as is stored in properly constructed mosquito-proof vessels.

RUTHERFORD'S NOTE BOOK.

A correspondent draws our reviewer's attention to a serious error on page 144 of Rutherford's Note Book and makes the following comment:—

"I should like to know where these teas were sold as I notice that the charges have been added to the gross proceeds—a very good idea if you can get your brokers to do it, mine always deduct the charges!" The correct figures at the end of page 144 are £160-17-3.

THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND GOVERNORS.

It is heresy for a mere planter to offer an opinion on the principle, or total want of principle that guides and misdirects the selection of individuals for some of the highest posts in the Empire, but now that our anxiety as to the nature of the contemplated appointment to Ceylon, has had a more harmless ending than was at one time probable, I venture some remarks. Forty years of observation leads to the conclusion that of all the stalls in the Downing Street stables, that of the Colonial Office does the largest jobbing business. Parliament takes little or no interest in the Crown Colonies, and the Civil Services of these possessions are too small and too scattered to command the influence yielded to sister services, and so, with no one to say nay, the Service and Departmental plans are too often given to outsiders, for reasons other than that they are the best men available. However strong the feeling of injustice may be, no individual who sees someone else pitchforked over him dares to strongly or publicly protest, for, if he does, he knows that a black mark will be put against him, and his future prejudiced. It has always been a mystery to me why the Sapper, the greatest cuckoo of the lot, should be so unfairly allowed to give up the Service he entered for, and at much expense to the country was trained to, and given Governorships and Directorships, to the prejudice of his Compeers in the other Services, who cannot cry quits by snapping up the higher military posts. Just the other day *all* the best Crown Colony Governorships were held by military men who should have been attending to the profession they selected in their youth, when their heroes were those of the Camp and the sword and not those of Government House and red-tape. Yet, there have been some bright spots of fairness in the years which crowd upon one's mind. There was an O'Brien, a Clementi-Smith and there were the brothers Swettenham; then at a distance came a Davidson, and recently a Clifford got his foot on the gubernatorial ladder. There is party jobbery in Downing Street, there is personal favouritism, and there is much ignorance; and yet, in spite of the Colonial Office, the men on the spot governed and governing, make our possessions a success. "How good a thing it is and how becoming well when you have an able Governor who does not care a dot for the Colonial Office. We had at least one such—now alas, on the other side—and words of his come to my mind when I think of the pliant Colonial Office unable to resist a job or stand up for the claims of the members of its services. We were conspiring to deceive and defeat the Colonial Office (every Governor worth his curry and rice does that), and I remarked "I don't think, Sir, that the Colonial Office shows much back-bone in the matter." "Back-bone" was the reply in those emphatic tones of conviction that one remembers, "the Colonial Office has no more back-bone than a squashed orange." But the Colonial Office mistakes the starch of

obstinacy for a vertebral column and, perhaps happily, includes in its comprehensive ignorance all knowledge of its own radiate character.

The appointment of Sir Robert Chalmers to the Governorship is the peg upon which I hang these remarks, just because they do not apply. His appointment indeed, like a previous one, is more on the lines of trying to make our Civil Services, to a wholesome extent, Imperial, rather than local. He is a Civil Servant and a competent one, and if such appointments had a set-off in an occasional appointment from the Colonial Service to the Home Service the Empire would not suffer.

My personal knowledge of the new Governor is very slight. He was, 16 years ago, Secretary to the Indian Currency Commission before which I was deputed to represent Ceylon views and interests. During my examination, which lasted for a day and some portion of a second day, I formed the opinion (biased perhaps, by the attentive way he looked after me at the lunch table), that the Secretary was a man who was certain to come on his own merits, to the front.

I have ever since watched his progress and congratulated myself on my own shrewdness. Ceylon should find in him a capable, sympathetic Governor and a most courteous gentleman.

T. NORTH CHRISTIE.

CAMP 1913.

Any one who has experience of the strenuous pleasures of Camp, and of the confused ideas left by it in the minds of the ordinary rank and file, will perhaps make allowances for the following bold and unconvincing narrative.

In the first place let it be said that the camp was a tremendous success from start to finish. The numbers were quite satisfactory, the work seemed more interesting and better carried out than usual—there was plenty of it too! and as ever the utmost conviviality prevailed.

No attempt will be made here to detail the various manoeuvres carried out. Eight days of late to bed and early to rise make them somewhat difficult of recollections. They left the members of the C. M. R. praising God that they had horses to sit on, and those of the C. P. R. C. filled with proper pride in their own achievements, and an ache in every limb.

The first few days in camp were spent in squadron and battalion drill outpost duty, &c. On Tuesday the new General inspected us and asked many pertinent questions! That night the Marines and Rajputs made an attack from Bandarawella on the camp, the operations lasting till midnight. The writer happened to be an advanced outpost of the defending force, and would certainly have died of fight had the conditions been in actual warfare. As it was sustained by welcome nips from the handy flask of a comrade in the C. M. R. courage survived the ordeal. The attack was most cleverly carried out and succeeded. This was perhaps the hardest day of all, as most of the Volunteers were at work from 6-30 a.m. till 11-30 from 2-5-30 and from 6-30-12. No wonder the box cooly was heard thanking his stars that Doreis didn't work like that on the totum.

The M. R., however, had a good dusting under Major Coombe next morning when A squadron outflanked and captured B. squadron by taking an almost impassable road in record time. Rumour hath it that Captain Dyer—in command of the captured squadron—complained that his adversary held an unfair advantage by being able to peer over the highest mountain without inconvenience and to discover his dispositions. Truly length is strength.

On Wednesday and Thursday evenings a most successful boxing competition was carried out. Plenty of pluck and skill was shown and the amount of gore shed was satisfactory to the spectators. The one and only Budd also contributed to the gaiety of nations by wrestling, and the sight of the Puffin seconding his partner in crime was worth going a long way to see.

The catering done by Mr. Lassen of the Grand Hotel was excellent. Draught beer flowed—or is it flew?—like Graham White and everyone throve on it.

The Sergeant instructors, as always, excited the admiration of all. They have the knack of doing ten things and being in ten places at once, and seem quite able to dispense with the useless habit of sleep.

No one who has seen R. J. M. T. Bidgood blushing bashfully at hints of matrimony (Best of good luck to the lady and him) blowing bugles, beating drums, cooing softly at unhandy members of the M. R. will ever forget it and his colleagues, both of the C. M. R. and C. P. R. C. were equally efficient.

A word of praise is also due the respective quartermasters, who toiled all day in dull orderly rooms and caught nothing of the fun going on outside.

Altogether it was a jolly good Camp and everyone up there must be longing for next July, while those who were not can be sure that they have missed one of the healthiest, happiest and cheapest holidays imaginable.

“TROOPER.”

WANTED—Information about Birds.

Dr. Pearson has lately made an appeal to all residents in Ceylon who are interested in the matter to contribute notes and information on the birds of their district.

It is now many years—nearly half a century—since Col. Legge and his band of correspondents collected the materials which went to the making of Legge's *Birds of Ceylon*. That book was in many ways a wonderfully complete record of Ceylon Ornithology, and it may be due partly to its very completeness that for many years there have been so few workers in the field to add to our information.

The *Birds of Ceylon* may be compared to a census of the bird population of the island some forty or fifty years ago.

Now the bird population of any country fluctuates in the same manner as the human population. Some of our rarer hill species, such as the Ceylon Jay *Cissa Ornata*—which must not be confounded with the Blue Jay or Indian Roller *Coracias Indica* so common in the North of the

Island—is probably slowly diminishing in number as its forest haunts become circumscribed through the opening up of the jungle. On the other hand some birds are rapidly increasing, at times owing to the most unlikely causes.

The Nanu Oya-Bandarawela railway has largely increased the numbers of *Collocalia Unicolor*, the little Swiftlet which makes the edible birds' nests which the Chinese turn into Soup. The birds glue a little nest of green moss and saliva on the walls and roofs of caves, and apparently consider that railway tunnels are ideal breeding grounds.

This Easter I examined the score of little tunnels between Ohiya and Bandarawela. Over half of them contained breeding colonies of this species, and in some there were several hundred nests.

In the South-East of the Island the Striated Weaverbird *Ploceus Manayar* and the Moor-hen *Gallinula Chloropus* which were considered rarities in Legge's time are breeding freely and yearly extending their haunts.

It is quite time therefore that fresh material were collected for another bird census, and it is for this purpose that Dr. Pearson has asked for information.

Many people would no doubt be willing to help us, but are handicapped by a want of knowledge, and their inability to identify the birds they meet.

There is no cheap hand-book on Ceylon birds. Legge's book* is out of print, and the price which has to be paid when a stray copy does come into the market is prohibitive for all, save those who are willing to spend a considerable sum on their hobby.

To supply a real want we hope soon to bring out a small hand-book, which will give information sufficient enough to enable even beginners to identify the birds found in Ceylon. It will not profess to treat exhaustively of their habits and distribution; it is merely a means to an end. The aim is to put a simple work of reference at the disposal of those who are willing to help us in collecting detailed information regarding our birds.

At the same time any notes sent before the book comes out will be very useful to the compilers.

The following are some of the main lines on which information will be acceptable.

As regards resident species we badly require observations from the wet low-country districts and from the hill-country, from both of which parts planters ought to be able to furnish us with records.

The occurrence should be noted of rare birds and of any birds which, though generally distributed, are locally uncommon. If any one will take the pains of compiling a full list of birds seen in the district, it will be most useful.

As regards migrants, observations might be made of the earliest arrival and latest departure, also the season of their greatest abundance and, if possible, the direction of their flight.

* Since writing the above I learn that Col. Legge is contemplating a new edition of his book.

W. E. W.

Evidence might also be collected of internal or of partial migrations.

The ordinary Green Pigeon, *Osmotreron pompadora* and the Jungle cock afford instances of internal migration.

Sometimes when a favourite berry is ripe they will be found in great numbers in places where at other times they are not to be seen at all, or only in diminished numbers. Some of the jungle fowls which swarm on the Horton Plains when the Nelu is in season must come from long distances.

The long-tailed Paradise Fly-catcher, *Terpsiphone paradisi*, appears to be a partial migrant. In the North-Central Province the young birds in the chestnut plumage remain all the year round and breed freely. The older black and white males disappear during the breeding season.

We also require a great deal of information about the nests, eggs, breeding habits and breeding seasons of nearly all our birds.

The breeding seasons in Ceylon are extraordinarily diversified. Some species apparently breed all the year round. Others breed at different times in different districts, and until we have a fairly complete list of observations from all over the island our knowledge will be very inadequate.

Perhaps the best way of recording observations is to keep a Bird-diary, in which anything worth noting is jotted down from day to day.

Planters on shooting trips may often come across rare birds. It is quite possible that several new species of duck may be recorded from the wilder parts of the island. A few years ago the first known Ceylon specimen of the Gadwal was obtained at Palutapane in the resident sportsman's reserve.

Sportsmen might also collect and give us any information they can on the breeding seasons and migrations, internal or otherwise, of the whistling teal *Dendrocygna javanica* in different parts of the Island.

There was a considerable outcry last year at the meeting of the Game Protection Society, because in the North-Central Province, the close season for teal was altered from June-October to the early months of the year.

The arguments against the change appeared to be: that a uniform close season was essential, that in the N.-E. Monsoon the teal on the tanks in the North-Central Province were migrant birds and that from June-October the teal, both old birds and flappers, were at the mercy of any cooly who chose to go down to the tank and massacre them. As regards the first argument the essential season for the protection of any wild bird is the breeding season, and, as I have said above, the breeding seasons in Ceylon are the reverse of uniform. There is no doubt that in the North-Central Province the teal breed in the early part of the year, from Christmas to Easter.

At that time all the village tanks in the province are full of water. There are about 2000 of these tanks, and on the majority of them the teal can find suitable breeding places and feeding grounds. Their favourite nesting sites are the large forks of the Kumbuk trees which fringe nearly every tank.

By June the water in most of these tanks has been used for the irrigation of the paddy crop. The water level has receded far from the ring of trees, and has shrunk to a muddy semi-circle adjoining the bund, and surrounded by a wide stretch of open grass.

There is little or no cover, and the teal are very wary. The flappers by this time are able to fly, and if there are any teal on a tank they keep out of range of the bund, and can only be approached over the wide grass flats.

If one does not get within shot they generally rise up and circle round high out of reach, or leave the tank altogether.

Any one who goes out teal shooting in the North-Central Province during the dry weather will not come across very many birds, and when he does find them will have to work fairly hard for his bag. They may be plentiful on a few of the larger banks, but they are fairly safe there from being exterminated at the hands of the cooly with a gas-pipe gun.

There remains only the second argument that the teal which are found flying in big flocks on the larger tanks from Christmas to Easter are migrant birds, so that it can do no possible harm to shoot them. If this is the case, as there are no birds which migrate to Ceylon for breeding purposes, there can be no harm in shooting them, in fact no close season for teal is needed.

But the statement is only half the truth. In reality we have rather an anomalous state of affairs. At the very time when the resident birds are breeding the tanks are also frequented by flocks of birds which are evidently not breeding.

Two problems therefore arise. Firstly, are the numbers breeding sufficient to warrant a close season at this time of the year; and secondly, where do these flocks of non-breeding birds come from? As regards the first, I think a close season is desirable. On a fairly large tank, at any time from December to March, if you look carefully you will see quite a number of birds moving in pairs. All these are breeding birds, and it must be borne in mind that they will not leave the tank.

After a hot peppering a migrant flock will get up in the air and leave, while the breeding birds keep flying round within shot and pay the heaviest toll. While if any of the broods are hatched the noise and commotion will frighten and scatter the young ones, many of whom are likely to get lost and snapped up by their enemies. It must also be considered that the migrant birds keep, as a rule, to the larger tanks, and that hundreds of the smaller tanks contain few, if any, save breeding birds.

So that if our resident birds are numerous enough to protect, and I certainly think they are, they must be given a close season while they are breeding.

The second problem is to ascertain the place from which the migrant flocks come, and it is on this point that information will be interesting from an ornithological point of view.

There are three possibilities. The first is that they are Indian birds. In certain districts in India the wet weather comes with the S.W. Monsoon and the birds breed in June and July. They may come over here when their swamps and tanks are dry, to enjoy the good feeding on our tanks in the wet weather, returning to breed in India during the rains there.

It may be that they come from other parts of Ceylon; this can only be ascertained if we get observations showing that the numbers of teal in other districts are reduced during the N.-E. Monsoon, when they flock to the North-Central Province.

Lastly, I have noticed that a large proportion of these non-breeding flocks are young birds, so that it is just possible that teal, or a great many of them, do not breed during their first year, and that a considerable quantity of the birds are all the while residents and not migrants. It is much more probable, however, that the young birds are those which were hatched elsewhere in the S.W. Monsoon.

If any one can collect any notes on the above points and send them in they will be of much use. All notes should be sent to Dr. Pearson at the Colombo Museum. Specimens of birds and bird's eggs will be gladly received for identification, and if so desired will be returned. Eggs should be accompanied by a description of the bird if it has been seen, and of the materials of which the nest was built, the position in which it was placed, *e.g.*, whether the eggs came from a grass nest placed on the ground, or from a cup-nest in the fork of a tree.

Lastly, while stray notes are interesting and welcome, they are far surpassed in value by regular observations from permanent residents in a district. If any planters are keen enough to make such observations and send them in they will be doing a real service to Ceylon Ornithology.

W. E. WAIT.

Mr. W. E. WAIT, of the Land Settlement Department, in collaboration with Messrs. Lewis and Cave, is collecting material for a new book on Ceylon birds. There is no doubt that a book of this kind will be welcomed by Planters, and we heartily second Mr. Wait's request for notes and facts. The little swift of the edible nests is common enough on all hills where rock caves are available, especially in the Adam's Peak range; and there are caves full of its nests on Lethenty and Carfax estates in Dikoya. Ed.]

CASTES.

The Aryan Controversy is still raging or, at best, is once more only doubtfully settled in part. It is said that the original home of the Aryans was in Europe and French and German ethnologists are now chiefly contending as to whether the race was a broad-headed or a long-headed one. Meanwhile nobody has ever thought of ceasing to call the inhabitants of the Panjab and Rajputana "Indo-Aryan" (which amounts to deciding in favour of the German theory, by the way), and it is still said that this people of the North of India form a branch of the Aryan stock that entered India from the North-west.

Hoernle says that there were two distinct invasions of Aryans. It has been proved that the country in and around Eastern Persia and Baluchistan was at one time very fertile and well supplied with rain. When the climate of E. Persia began to dry up and cultivation became more and more difficult for lack of water, the Aryan inhabitants gradually moved still farther South-east in streams of families across Baluchistan and were ultimately driven, as the climate dried up behind them, into the Panjab.

In the second invasion the men were unable to bring their women with them across what was now hundreds of miles of desert. They came as soldiers and conquerors, probably through the passes, and brought very few women with them. Sir Herbert Risley thinks that the formation of caste in India was the result of this second invasion. I quote him as follows:—

" . . . It is not difficult to construct the rough outlines of the process, which must have taken place when

the second wave of Indo-Aryans first made their way into India through Gilgit and Chitral. At starting they formed a homogeneous community, scantily supplied with women, which speedily outgrew its original habitat. A company of the more adventurous spirits set out to conquer for themselves new domains among the neighbouring Dravidians. They went forth as fighting men, taking with them few women or none at all. They subdued the inferior race, established themselves as conquerors, and captured women according to their needs. Then they found themselves cut off from their original stock, partly by the distance and partly by the alliances they had contracted. By marrying the captured women they had, to some extent, modified their original type, but a certain pride of blood remained to them, and when they had bred females enough to serve their purposes, and to establish a distinct *jñāṣ conubii*, they closed their ranks to all further admixture of blood. When they did this they became a caste like the castes of the present day. As their numbers grew, their cadets again sallied forth in the same way, and became the founders of Rajput and pseudo-Rajput houses all over India. In each case complete amalgamation with the inferior race was averted by the fact that the invaders only took women and did not give them."

Sir Herbert Risley says that the same process is going on in the present day, and instances the case of the Ceylon Burghers amongst others.

Now it will be remembered that the members of the Dutch Burgher Union strongly objected to the inclusion with themselves in one category with any other Eurasians in Ceylon, and with a good deal of reason.

With considerably less reason—but still a little—the Eurasians of Madras Presidency appear to be getting split up now. In calling certain people Eurasians here while speaking to Indians I have been met with "Naht Eurasians, Sarr—East Indian man." The Eurasians are said to be those who gave their women only to each other or to Europeans. They are beginning to call themselves "Anglo-Indians." The East Indians are those who readily mate with the natives of the country. In this case there will soon be no perceptible difference between these latter and the natives of the country except in the matter of dress, but the caste name will certainly be kept up. In course of time, probably the caste will split up into different names according to the kind of Indian they have inter-married with, and some of these castes may even adopt the native dress. So the formation of castes goes on. Among the Indians themselves the cases of the Komatis and Beri Komatis and the Balijas and Gazula Balijas are probably instances of a similar kind. Certain rich people in the caste, imagining or pretending to imagine, that the proper observances of the caste were not being carried out, set themselves up as purists and refused to intermarry with the rest of the caste. In due time—among the Suddras, at least—they may develop another name and become a separate caste. Even native Indians hesitate where to draw the line between one caste and the next, and are very divided as to the relative importance to be attached to each form of nomenclature. It is with the utmost diffidence, therefore, that I append the following short list of the "Twice-born" castes of these districts and a few of the chief Telugu Suddra castes. I have avoided too many sub-divisions as only tending to confusion. The

Suddra castes are placed in a rough order of precedence, for which no great amount of accuracy is claimed. Each caste wishes to see itself as high up in the list as possible, and scorns the idea of certain other castes being placed above it.

THE TWICE-BORN CASTES.

BRAHMANS	Veishnava	Vadagala (Northern) (U trident)
		Tengala (Southern) (U trident)
	Maddhwa	Achari (Many sandalwood marks)
		Rawuji (one mark on forehead)
KSHATTRIYAS	Smarta	Vedika (Many triple horizontal lines)
		Niyogi (one triple line on forehead)
	Lala Singh Prasad Rawu,	U trident
		one black spot
	Beri Komati	(Trident mark)
	Komati	(Either trident or triple finger line)

All the above are wearers of the sacred thread.

Veishnavas generally end their names with Eiyengar or "Acharlu." They act as priests at the ceremonies of the Suddras. In their caste mark the two (outside) upright white lines are joined at the bottom in a different manner as they are Vadagalas or Tengalas, the centre red line remaining the same. The Vadagalas join with a curve, making it look like a large white U. The Tengalas join with an almost straight line, a notch in the centre below it, and the whole thing looks like a square-made toasting-fork with a very short tang reaching down to the bridge of the nose. Tengala Brahman widows do not keep their heads shaved. All the Veishnavas are worshippers of Vishnu as the chief God.

The Maddhwa Brahmins will not attend the ceremonies of the Suddras. The Acharis attend only the ceremonies of each other and of the Rawujis. The Acharis dot themselves all over with sandalwood marks. The Rawujis put only one sandalwood mark and a black vertical line on the forehead. They are occasionally to be seen sporting mustaches and even beards.

The Smarta Brahmins are worshippers of Siva (Sevan) and their caste mark is the three white ash horizontal finger lines, such as the Ceylon coolie marks his forehead with, for he is also a Sivite when he is anything else but a devil-worshipper. The Veidiki smears himself all over with these lines, while the Niyogi puts only one triple line on the forehead and adds a black dot. The latter also sometimes allows his face to grow hirsute. (I have seen Tengalas do the same thing when they were out of sight of their relatives.) The Veidiki will attend the ceremonies of the Suddras. The Veidiki end their names with Eiyar (Iyer) and the Niyogi with Rawu (Rao, Row).

All Brahman widows shave their heads except the Tengala Veishnavas. Brahman women tie their cloths differently to the usual Suddra way, they have a method of tucking the end up loosely between the legs. The Veishnava, Maddhwa and Smarta women also all tie it differently to one another, so that one can spot what caste a woman belongs to if one has an eye for fashion.

Of the Kshattriya castes Lalas, Singhs and Prasads will not interdine with Brahmins. The Lalas will inter-

dine with nobody, but the Singhs will take food from the two lower castes if it is served without salt. The Lalas act as priests to the caste; the Singhs are the real soldiers of this soldiers caste and the other two sub-castes are servants. From their caste mark it will be seen that the Kshattriyas are all Veishnavas and they naturally sport the northern variety of the mark.

The Veisyas are, of course, the merchants and traders of the community. Their names always end in Setti or Chetti (Chetty). (The word Settu means trade in Tamil). The Beri Komati are all Veishnavas and bear the trident on their brows. Of the Komatis some worship Vishnu and some Siva, and they may therefore be seen with either the trident or the triple parallel mark.

THE TELUGU SUDDRAS.

BALIJA.—This caste is divided into Gazula Balija and Balija. They are properly bangle sellers, and the Gazula Balijas often call themselves "Chetti" as being merchants or if they have gone into any other trade. The usual title of the caste is Nayadu (Naidu) and the Balija sub-division always style themselves so. Of the Gazula Balijas some are Veishnavas (Y) and some Siva worshippers. The Balija sub-caste is all Veishnava.

MUDALIYAR.—This is apparently a landowning and farming caste. In religion they seem to be either northern Veishnavas (U) or Sivites.

(I have a shrewd suspicion that the Mudaliyar has as much right to be placed first as the Balijas.)

GOLLA.—Shepherds and cowherds. They often call themselves "Pillai" and generally end their names with that term.

KAMMA.—Cultivators. They generally end their names in Nayadu.

KUMMARA.—Potters.

KAPU.—Cultivators. This is perhaps the most numerous caste in the Telugu Districts. They might really, I fancy, have been placed before the Kummara caste. They commonly add "Reddi" to their names.

SATANI.—The function of this caste appears to be attendance on the Brahmins at night ceremonies. They might be called M.C.'s at night gatherings. Their *raison d'être* is probably the reluctance of Brahmins to come into direct contact with certain Suddras.

DASARI.—A fairly numerous class of cultivators. (Really Tamils.)

PALLE.—We are now in a slightly lower grade. These are a very numerous class of landowners and cultivators. They are supposed to be the equivalent of the Tamil Vanniya caste. They style themselves "Reddi."

SALE.—Weavers. The Veishnavas among them seem to wear either the northern or the southern mark, and there are also those who follow the Smarta worship. There is a sub-division, the Padma Sale or Silk weavers, who claim higher rank and are all southern Veishnavas by mark.

AMBALA.—Drum-beaters and soothsayers.

BATTRASU.—Courtiers, magicians and beggars. (Those should probably be higher up in the list.)

MUTRASU.—Originally servants to the Rajas. Now generally cultivators and messengers.

BESTA.—Servants of the Rajas. There is a sub-caste called—Chaubadi or fisherman, considered much lower in the social scale.

KURUBA.—Shepherds, but not cowherds.

TARGALA.—Dhobi. (Vanna.)

UPPARA.—Well-sinkers.

MANGALA.—Barbers. (Ambbata) Also Surgeons and Midwives.

KORACHA.—Basket-makers. A wild unsettled caste of rogues and thieves who do not invite Brahmans to their ceremonies. (Kurava).

ODDA.—Earthworkers.

YANADI.—A sort of half-Gypsy caste peculiar to Nellore. They seem to do odd jobs for the Brahmans and Sudbras. They are divided into three castes and the top caste of these attends on Brahmans, so the caste may have functions of a sort. They are said to be very lazy, ignorant and dirty and very prolific, so one would imagine that the death-rate of children must be very high.

BOYA.—Palanquin-bearers. They are a beef-eating caste.

MALA.—Outcaste beef-eaters. (Pareiya). They do not kill the beef, but leave that to the Madigas. They have a priest caste of their own, Mala Dasari (Tam. Valluwa), who rank themselves higher than the rest of the caste.

MADIGA.—Beef-eaters, slaughterers and leather workers. (Sakkiliya). These are the lowest caste in the social scale. The Malas and these the Brahmans will not allow to approach within many yards for fear of pollution. Like the Pareiyas and Sakkiliyas, they are the domestic servants in the houses of Europeans.

KAMSALA.—This caste would place itself first in the scale. They deny the authority of the Brahmans and consider themselves as good, or better in caste. They say the Brahman is no use to anybody, whereas the world could not exist without themselves or their work. They may be called the equivalent of the Tamil Tatta caste. There are three castes within this caste; Goldsmiths, Iron-workers and Carpenters and they rank in that order. The women tie their cloths somewhat in the Brahman style. (Proverb: "There is no caste lower than the Kamsala.")

JANGAM.—Beggars. Chank-blowers to the Sivites and servants in the temples of Siva.

BHOGAM.—Minstrels, dancers and prostitutes (Devadasi). Originally servants in the temples.

DONMARI.—Acrobats.

JOGI.—Beggars. (Sanyasi.)

I have not seen the above names of the Sudbras castes written or printed in the Vernacular; they are put down phonetically as I hear them, that is, as phonetically as the English Alphabet will allow of, but I shall be glad if they are found to be of any use to Superintendents and others in making up estate registers or writing out A. Forms.

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE.

Chittoor,

31st July, 1913.

COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTS.

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee of Agricultural Experiments, held in the Library of the Royal Botanic Gardens on Thursday, the 10th July, at 4 p.m.

Present:—The Director of Agriculture (in the Chair), the Government Botanist and Mycologist, the Government

Entomologist, the Government Chemist, the Manager, Experiment Station, Maha-illuppalam, the Rubber Research Chemist, the Hon'ble Mr. G. S. Saxton, Mr. J. Conroy, Assistant Government Agent, Puttalam, Messrs. H. Inglis, F. H. Layard, M. L. Wilkins, Neill G. Campbell, G. H. Massfield, J. S. Patterson, H. D. Garrick, A. W. Beven, J. D. Vanderstraaten, Mudaliyar A. E. Rajapakse, Dr. H. M. Fernando, Messrs. G. C. Bliss, A. S. Long Price, N. W. Davies, W. Coombe, R. G. Coombe, G. H. Gollledge, C. Panditasekera; and, as visitors, the Hon'ble Mr. L. W. Booth, c.m.g., Acting Colonial Secretary, Messrs. H. Gordon Cran, S. P. Blackmore, R. Huyshe Eliot, H. S. Cameron, Secretary, District Planters' Association, Kandy, J. L. Bond, H. F. Macmillan, Major T. G. Jayawardena, Mr. J. E. P. Rajapaksa and Dr. J. G. C. Vriens from Sumatra, the Manager, Experiment Station, Peradeniya, Secretary.

Papers tabled:—

1. Progress Report, Experiment Station, Peradeniya.
2. Progress Report, Experiment Station, Maha-illuppalam.
3. Monthly Statement of Accounts of the Experiment Station, Peradeniya.

1. The Chairman invited the views of the Committee as to whether the meetings should in future be held in the Library or at Ganoruwa.

Mr. Bliss welcomed the idea of holding meetings in the Library, and it was eventually agreed that they be held in the Library and not at Ganoruwa.

2. Referring to the last minutes the Chairman informed the meeting that the Colombo Stores, Ltd., who are importing a boring tool, state that they expect to receive it two months hence.

3. As a reply to the resolution adopted at the last meeting of the Committee had not been received from Mr. Bamber, it was resolved to invite Mr. Bamber's attention to it again.

4. LOCAL TIMBERS FOR TEA CHESTS.—The Chairman drew the attention of the Committee to a sample of 4 planks of Telembu (*Sterculia foetida*) received from the Acting Conservator of Forests.

Mr. Wilkins pointed out that he finds it pay him better to buy Momi chests for tea, as the price of local chests has gone up and the quality down.

Mr. Wilkins asked that enquiries be made as to quantity available, district from which the timber came and the approximate cost.

As regards the thickness of timber used, Mr. Gollledge said $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch and $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch was the thickness of timbers used for rubber and tea respectively.

There were other dimensions mentioned—sides and bottoms; tea, rubber.

5. PROGRESS REPORTS.—Mr. Wilkins suggested that the Progress Reports of Peradeniya Experiment Station and Maha-illuppalam be circulated beforehand with the Agenda. This was agreed to.

6. HEDYCHIUM.—The Chairman referred to the *Hedygium* grown at the Experiment Station, which he said was being grown with a view to seeing whether it would spread. He said that this was considered one of the best products to supplement wood pulp for paper-making. Both varieties, *Hedygium coronarium* and *H. Flavescens* were being planted at Peradeniya.

7. RUBBER STUMPS.—10,000 rubber stumps from the Old Peradeniya Hevea trees being available for sale, the Chairman invited opinions as to price to be asked. It was decided to sell them at Rs. 20 per 1,000.

8. PROGRESS REPORT, MAHA-ILLUPPALAMA.—The Chairman said that Government had decided to open a Dry Zone Station at Anuradhapura, and that very probably Maha-illuppalama will be sold or leased. He drew the attention of the members to the map of the New Dry Zone Station.

Mr. Davies inquired why Maha-illuppalama was to be abandoned. The Chairman informed that it was not to be abandoned, but that he considered that a private syndicate could now develop the estate better than the Government. Maha-illuppalama was too much out-of-the-way for an Experiment Station.

9. DYNAMITING EXPERIMENTS.—A memorandum by Mr. Corlett on dynamiting experiments carried on at Peradeniya was read by the Chairman, which showed that each hole cost 25 cents, and he pointed out that now as they have seen Mr. Doolan experimenting it might be done cheaper.

Mr. Rutherford pointed out as an objection to subsoiling on the hillsides to any extent that it might result in serious soil-wash during heavy rains.

At this stage of the meeting, Mr. Doolan, Representative of Nobel's Explosives Company, Hamburg, entered and answered many questions put to him by the Committee regarding the various uses of dynamite.

He estimated the cost of blasting with Nobel's Hamburg Dynamite No. 1 as follows:—One case containing 200 cartridges 7/8 of an inch in diameter Rs. 24 or cents 12 per cartridge; detonators Rs. 19-50 per 1,000 or two cents each; fuze about 1 cent per foot: there being 24 feet to a coil.

Using at the most for a two-foot hole:—

Half a Cartridge	...	6 cents
One detonator	...	2 "
2 feet of fuze at 1 cent per foot	2 "	

10 cents per hole.

Two coolies can put down 25 holes per hour or 175 holes in a day of 7 hours. Labour cost per each cooly—35 cents—70 cents for two coolies; and two other coolies, expert in making primers, charging holes and firing same at 50 cents each per day, Re. 1-00, bringing the total cost of labour to Rs. 1-70 per day, equal to 1 cent per hole (175 holes); making the total cost of labour 1 cent per hole. The total cost of dynamite, detonators and fuze and labour is thus 11 cents per hole.

10. COCONUT TRIAL GROUND, CHILAW.—The Chairman informed the meeting that a coconut Trial Ground had been opened at Chilaw on July 1st, and that experiments were to begin on the 1st October. The next meeting will be held on September, the 30th, the day preceding the experiments at 10-45 a.m. at Mr. N. J. Martin's residence.

11. RIO RUBBER EXHIBITION.—The Chairman read a letter with the Planters' Association received from Dr. Willis regarding the Rubber Exhibition to be held at Rio de Janeiro.

Mr. Layard undertook to reply that it was too late now for Ceylon to participate in the exhibition.

JAVA EXHIBITION.—The Chairman said that Mr. van Laer, who was on a visit, had requested him to inform Ceylon that Java was having a Rubber Exhibition in September, 1914.

LONDON EXHIBITION.—Mr. Gollidge inquired whether Government had been asked to be represented at the London Exhibition in 1914. He thought it would be a pity if Ceylon was not represented.

Mr. Bliss and Dr. Fernando agreed with Mr. Gollidge that Ceylon should be represented.

Hon'ble Mr. Booth said that, speaking apart from the Government, his own private feeling was that if the planters decided to exhibit and represented the fact to the Government the decision would meet with sympathetic consideration.

The following resolution was drawn up, and it was decided to await the decision of the Planters' Association before forwarding the same to Government:—

"The Chairman be requested to represent to the Government the unanimous feeling of the Committee that Ceylon should exhibit at the London Exhibition in 1914 on the same lines as those of 1911."

12. LADDER TAPPING.—Mr. Wilkins inquired the effect of ladder tapping, the bark below being finished and not sufficiently renewed.

Mr. Petch replied, that in his opinion, if the lower part of the stem had been allowed four years for renewal, and ladder tapping was practised merely because the lower part was untappable owing to nodules, there was no physiological objection to it; but if the tree was tapped above six feet before renewal was complete below that, the practice was to be deprecated, because the diminished amount of food which could pass the tapping cut would be insufficient to provide for adequate renewal over so large an area.

13. STERILISING OF MANURES.—A discussion followed regarding this question in which Messrs. R. G. Coombe, Wilkins, Petch, Gollidge and W. Coombe took part.

The Chairman referred to Mr. Petch, who replied that 12 samples of manures received from Manure Merchants had been tested for weeds with negative results. Basic Slag and Sulphate of Potash had also been added to these, but no weeds had appeared. Five samples from estates had undergone a preliminary test, and were now being tested more fully; up to the present no weeds had appeared.

Samples of weeds had been received from three estates, and others were expected.

It was pointed out that these negative results did not correspond with the experience of estates. The Chairman replied that the trials had been carefully conducted in the only way to test the question of whether the samples of manures contained weed seeds, and that there was no escaping from the results.

14. THE DISSECTING OUT OF THE ROOTS OF THE TREES BLOWN AT HENARATGODA AND TARRED, PERMANENTLY TO SHOW THE INTERLACING OF ROOTS WHEN THE TREES ARE CLOSELY PLANTED:—Mr. Bruce in opening this question said that everyone knew what was going on above the soil, but that very few were acquainted with what was taking place underneath, and in the discussion which followed it was finally decided to expose the roots of two adjacent trees at Heneratgoda for observation and tar them.

15. DISINFECTING NON-PRODUCTIVE SOILS WITH VOLATILE BODIES SUCH AS TOLNENE.—Mr. Bruce referred to the

Rothamstead Research, where spraying soils with Tolnene, etc., had the same sterilising effect as heating, but in the former case without loss of organic matter. Increase of crops was obtained on the treated plots.

Mr. Rutherford was of opinion that a special staff would be required for the experiments.

After some discussion, it was considered unnecessary, for the present, to carry on similar experiments at the Ganoruwa Experiment Station, it being sufficient to keep in touch with current research.

16. THE STIMULATING EFFECT OF ELECTRICITY OF THE YIELDING POWER OF RUBBER TREES:—Mr. Bruce explained his views with regard to this. After some discussion it was thought that experiments which would involve considerable outlay would not be likely to lead to practical results.

17. RICE CULTIVATION IN CEYLON AND POSSIBILITIES OF ITS EXTENSION:—Mr. Layard said that rice cultivation seemed on the decrease in Ceylon, and he was anxious to know if the Agricultural Department could not take up this important question so as to encourage the consumption of local rice instead of importing huge quantities at the present heavy rate.

A general discussion followed.

Mr. Conroy said that in his district the paddy fields were being planted up by capitalists with coconuts and the villager found his principal occupation gone.

Mr. Saxton thought that paddy cultivation was not greatly on the decrease, and what decrease there was, mainly due to the natives finding well-paid employments on the estates.

Hon'ble Mr. Booth said he thought the natives would not take kindly to improved methods. On one occasion he had grown some fine rice under improved methods which yielded good grain and long straw. On showing this to certain villagers they replied that their buffaloes were not strong enough to thresh it.

Mr. Beven said he thought Sinhalese could only be induced to grow rice for their own consumption, as a man's position was measured by his ability to eat his own rice.

It was further thought that Tamil coolies would not eat Ceylon grown rice, as they complained of its poor quality and that it does not agree with them.

Mr. Garrick thought this was partly due to the rice being cut too green.

Mr. Coombe thought improvement of some sort was urgently needed.

The Chairman said that one most important way of extending rice cultivation in Ceylon was through the medium of Co-operative Credit Societies which would enable the cultivator to borrow his seed paddy at a cheap rate of interest, thus relieving him of a very great financial burden. He assured Mr. Layard that this question of improving of paddy cultivation was receiving the attention of the Department.

The meeting terminated at 6 p.m.

(Signed) DUDLEY S. CORLETT,

Secretary, Committee of

Agricultural Experiments.

Peradeniya, 30th July, 1913.

Miscellaneous

The following extracts from "THE PLANTERS' CHRONICLE" of August 9th, one from the Editorial notes and the other from the Correspondence columns, show that the labour question is occupying the active attention of South Indian Planters.

Correspondence of interest to all takes up a good deal of space. A letter from the Chairman to the Secretary, originally circulated to the Councillors of the Association, is reproduced, in the expectation that it will rouse general interest and sympathy with the Labour Committee, who had a hopeless task to harmonise conflicting opinions, but from the Chairman's letter it will be noticed that it is yet hoped to place before the delegates some suggestions that may tend towards the solution of this thorny question. The letter is published for the information of individual readers, to show them that the subject has been one of constant thought and intercommunication between the members of the Labour Committee.

Circular Letter.

THE LABOUR QUESTION.

Labour Committee.

Under date Meppadi, 28th June, the Chairman writes to the Secretary as follows:—

"I have consulted the Members of the Committee appointed at the last Annual Meeting, and they agree with me in thinking that we ought to issue a report on the opinions received from the various Associations about the Registration Scheme, and the possibility of harmonising them and circulating a working proposal with the idea of improving the labour position.

"We have come to the conclusion that it is impossible to harmonise the opinions.

"The Anamalai Association is the only one that has expressed itself whole-heartedly in favour of the Scheme. The Nilgiris will only support it if the Registration Bureau is made a Department of the U. P. A. S. I. and worked under its guidance. The Wynad somewhat unwillingly agreed to adopt the Scheme, provided Government would have all coolies' finger prints examined before allowing them to emigrate. The Kanan Devans and Malabar Coast flatly refuse to have anything to do with registering coolies. The other Associations are not actively hostile: but seem indifferent.

"Mr. Marden, whose name was put forward as willing to run the Bureau, asked for an advance of Rs. 20,000 to start it, a sum quite out of the power of the U. P. A. S. I. to furnish. Though if the Scheme were to be put through it was not an unreasonable amount to ask, and it could doubtless be easily raised for any purpose that the whole Community approve of.

"Looking at all the circumstances of the case, it seems very doubtful if the Madras Government would support the Scheme by having all intending emigrants detained at the Port of embarkation till it had ascertained that they had not been advanced to work in India. It certainly would not do so unless we could put forward a very strong case backed up by the unanimous vote of the Planting Community. It must be remembered that a very carefully worked out Scheme for universal registration which was brought forward at the 1909 Meeting by Mr. Brook was rejected by the District Associations after full consideration.

"It may perhaps be thought that that the Committee's task is finished now that it has said that it is unable to formulate a Registration Scheme that would be generally acceptable to Southern India Planters. But a great deal of information has been collected, especially as regards the methods of recruiting for Ceylon and the Straits. The bulletins you have issued are very interesting.

"The year has not been wasted, though a Committee whose Members have to exchange their views by correspondence works at a great disadvantage. We hope to meet before the Annual Meeting, and to have some suggestions to put forward to improve matters; and the further views of District Associations would be very useful to us.

"Government may have to undertake an enquiry if this drain of emigration can be allowed to go on indefinitely. The Railways, the Public Works and the Forest Department are all suffering from the shortage of labour. Ceylon planters admit that they are unable to continue the reckless advances that the competition of labour involves. After all the bulk of Ceylon planters are growing tea, and cannot afford to go on raising the cost of production. Even when the cost of recruiting is not charged to revenue, Proprietors have grown tired of piling up the advance account.

"Our most dangerous rivals are in Malaya. But there, as elsewhere, there must be a limit to expenditure.

"The suggestion has been made that there is no reason why we should not have a Labour Commission of our own like Ceylon.

"Another is that our coolies ought to have the same concessions on railways as those intended for Ceylon and the Straits.

"The Registration of Maistries (Kanganies) is a measure which more than one Association would like to adopt.

"I am sending copies of this letter to the other Members of Committee, and asking them to write to you saying if they agree with it, and to make any additions or minutes of dissent that they wish. The letters might then be issued as a circular to Councillors, and perhaps published in the "Chronicle."

"The following are the replies to the above from Messrs. E. A. Hughes and C. H. Brook respectively:—

"I received a copy of letter written to you by Abbott with reference to the above. I have written telling Abbott that I think I could arrange to meet the other Members of the Com-

mittee, a few days before the Annual General Meeting. This would be the best plan if it can be arranged. I am also in agreement with most of the points raised by Mr. Abbott in his letter, and I think if we have a meeting, we should be able to come to some sort of arrangement as a beginning at all events."

"With reference to the Chairman's letter to you dated 26/8/13, I have to inform you, that I am quite in accord with all the remarks that he has made."

COCONUTS.

Sale of Land in N. W. P.

Land Settlement Office,

Colombo, 11th August, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,

Planters' Association, Kandy.

SALE ADVERTISEMENTS.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward herewith 6 copies of advertisements of 1,236 acres of Crown Land in the Deduru Oya Valley believed to be suitable for coconuts. These lands lie in 3 blocks of 756, 268 and 274 acres and are all in same neighbourhood.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) H. O. FOX,

Settlement Officer.

[Extract from the "Ceylon Government Gazette" No. 6,573 of July 25, 1913.]

No. 2,391, S. O.—On Friday, October 17, 1913, at 12 noon, the Land Settlement Officer will put up for sale or settlement, at the Kurunegala Kachcheri, the under-mentioned portions of Crown land, on the terms authorized by Government. Five allotments of land situated in the Magul Madagandaha Korale West of Wannihatpattu division of the Kurunegala District of the North-Western Province.

Preliminary plan 3,931. Pahalagama.

Lot.	Name of Land.	Name of Claimant or Applicant.	Description.	Extent.		
				A.	R.	P.
386	Pahalagamamukalana ...	... Crown ...	... Forest ...	...	297	3 27
Preliminary plan 3,931.—Sinhalakallanchiya.						
392	Sinhalakallanchiyamukalana	... Crown ...	... Forest ...	...	139	1 25
393	Sinhalakallanchiyawewa	... do ...	... Tank and bund (abandoned)	...	3	3 31
Preliminary plan 3,931.—Nagansole.						
396	Nagansolemukalana ...	... Crown ...	... Forest ...	...	159	1 14
Preliminary plan 3,931.—Moonamale.						
399	Moonamalemukalana ...	... Crown ...	... Forest ...	...	154	3 15

Upset price at Rs. 50 per acre. Further information regarding these lands can be obtained from the Land Settlement Officer, and plans of them from the Surveyor-General.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, July 23, 1913.

L. W. BOOTH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

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392	Sinhalakallanchiyamukalana	... Crown Forest	139	1 25
393	Sinhalakallanchiyawewa	... do Tank and bund (abandoned)	...	3	3 31
Preliminary plan 3,931.—Nagansole.						
396	Nagansolemukalana Crown Forest	159	1 14

Preliminary plan 3,931. - Moonamale.

Lot.	Name of Land.	Name of Claimant or Applicant.	Description.	Extent.		
				A.	R.	P.
399	Moonamalemulakana ...	... Crown ...	... Forest ...	154	3	15

Upset price at Rs. 50 per acre. Further information regarding these lands can be obtained from the Land Settlement Officer, and plans of them from the Surveyor-General.

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Colombo, July 23, 1913.

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Acting Colonial Secretary.

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No. 2,391, S. O.—On Friday, October 17, 1913, at 12 noon, the Land Settlement Officer will put up for sale or settlement, at the Kurunegala Kacheheri, the under-mentioned portions of Crown land, on the terms authorized by Government. Five allotments of land situated in the Magul Medagandahe Korale West of Wannu hatpattu division of the Kurunegala District of the North-Western Province.

Preliminary plan 3,931.—Pahalagama.

Lot.	Name of Land.	Name of Claimant or Applicant.	Description.	Extent.		
				A.	R.	P.
386	Pahalagamamulakana ...	... Crown ...	... Forest ...	297	3	27
Preliminary plan 3,931.—Sinhakallanchiya.						
392	Sinhakallanchiyamulakana	... Crown ...	... Forest ...	139	1	25
393	Sinhakallanchiyawewa	... do ...	... Tank and bund (abandoned) ...	3	3	31
Preliminary plan 3,931.—Nagansole.						
396	Nagansolemulakana	... Crown ...	... Forest ...	159	1	14
Preliminary plan 3,931.—Moonamale.						
399	Moonamalemulakana	... Crown ...	... Forest ...	154	3	15

Upset price at Rs. 50 per acre. Further information regarding these lands can be obtained from the Land Settlement Officer, and plans of them from the Surveyor-General.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, July 23, 1913.

L. W. BOOTH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

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Preliminary plan 3,970.—Bambikulama.

Lot.	Name of Land.	Name of Claimant or Applicant.	Description.	Extent.		
				A.	R.	P.
575	Bambikulamemulakana	... Crown ...	... Forest ...	112	1	0
578	Bambikulamehena	... do ...	... Chena ...	55	0	0
581	Bambikulama	... do ...	... Tank and bund ...	5	3	24
583	Bambikulamemulakana	... do ...	... Forest ...	41	1	36
Preliminary plan 3,970.—Sandaranatawa.						
585	Sandaranatawehena	... Crown ...	... Chena ...	99	3	5
586	Sandaranatawemulakana	... do ...	... Forest ...	0	2	20
587	Do	... do ...	... do ...	0	1	23
592	Sandaranatawa	... do ...	... do ...	105	1	12
Preliminary plan 3,970.—Neerawiya.						
584	Neerawiyamulakana	... Crown ...	... Forest ...	18	0	35
Preliminary plan 3,970.—Ihalagama.						
593	Ihalagamamulakana	... Crown Forest ...	42	0	6

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Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, July 23, 1913.

L. W. BOOTH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

In order that a suggestion made at the last general Committee of the Planters' Association may be rendered operative, the following notice is here published in English and Tamil.

CHILD MURDER IN COOLY LINE.

At the Supreme Court Criminal Sessions at Kandy, before His Lordship Mr. Justice Ennis and a jury, one Vellatchy, a cooly woman of Rothschild Estate, Pussellawa, was yesterday sentenced to be hanged for causing the death of a recently born female child, Muttusami Perumai. There were two charges, causing death and concealment of birth. The doctor found that death was due to suffocation caused by choking with unboiled rice, coriander seed and mud.

The jury brought in a unanimous verdict of guilty and sentence of death was passed.

கவிலயத்திலே குழந்தையைக் கொலை செய்தது.

கண்டியில் நடக்கும் பெரிய கோட்டு விளக்கத்தில் "என்னில்" நீசுவான் துறையவர்களுக்கும் பூரித்தனாமா-ருக்கு முன்பதாக புசலாவை "ஒருக்கைசுட்ட" கோட்டை-திவள்ளு. கவி வெள்ளைச்சி பெயர்ப்பவன் சுற்றுமுன்பதாகப் பிறந்த முத்துச்சாமிப் பெருமை பெயரணம் குழந்தையைக்

கொலை செய்ததற்காக தேற்ற தூக்குக்கு நியமிக்கப் பட்டான். அவனுக்குவிரோதமாக இரண்டு குற்றச்சாட்டுகள் கொண்டு உடப்பட்டான். அதாவது பிள்ளை பிறந்ததை ஒழித்ததும் பிள்ளையைக் கொலை செய்ததும். டக்குத்தர் பரிசோதித்து குழந்தையின் வாய்க்குள் அரிசியையும் கொத் தமல்லியையும் மண்ணையும் திணித்ததினால் மூச்செடுக்கப் பட்டாமல் இறந்ததாகக் கண்டறிந்தார்.

பூரித்துணாமார் ஒருமித்துக் குற்றவாழியென்று தீர்ப்புச் சொல்ல மரணத்தீர்ப்பு வாசிக்கப்பட்டது.



46, Rutland Gate,
S. W.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association, Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

I have received from the hands of Mr. Loudonn Shand a most beautiful specimen of Ceylon Art in the shape of a casket. This he informs me is presented to me by the Planters' Association to contain the address which they presented to me before my departure from the Island in consequence of a physical breakdown.

Kindly convey to the Association my warmest thanks for their splendid gift. I shall always treasure it as a mark of the close tie which existed between the members and myself and of the many happy days which I spent in their midst.

The Association is an instrument of much potentiality and the pleasant relations which I had with its members much facilitated my work of administration. May it enjoy continued prosperity and extend its arena of usefulness.

Yours truly,
HENRY MCCALLUM.

Blara-Cha,
Royaebidge,
Scotland,
July 25th, 1913.

F. H. LAYARD, ESQ.,
Chairman, Ceylon Planters' Association.

My Dear Layard,

With regard to my letter on Burmah rice there seems to be some ambiguity, in the minds of at least some persons who have read it. I will try to put the matter more plainly.

Burmah rice is not only hulled but polished. The bran is thereby removed and the rice acquires its characteristic white appearance. In this process much rice is broken and has to be sifted out. In spite of this loss and the expense of polishing, Burmah rice can be landed in Colombo cheaper than Soolye rice.

Coolies, however, will not eat Burmah rice, because they say that—

1. It is deficient in staying quality. They feel faint and hungry much sooner after a meal than they do after eating Soolye.
2. The rice will not keep after cooking, but goes sour within a few hours.
3. It gives them gripes and abdominal pains.

N. B.—This is probably only when it is allowed to go sour.

Now coolies have no objection to eat the ordinary brown Sinhalese village rice which is not steamed, but to which much of the bran husk is adherent. It therefore seems to me that their objection to Burmah rice is merely to its colour, which they rightly assumed to indicate its deleterious quality, and that brown Burmah rice would keep sweet after cooking. They would probably not object to an admixture at least, of brown Burmah rice to begin with.

It must be noted that Soolye rice is often mixed with broken white rice as it is, and coolies rarely complain so long as the percentage of broken discoloured grains, stones and rubbish generally present is not excessive, or abnormal.

The point there is to determine first of all: *Whether brown Burmah rice will keep sweet after cooking; and, secondly, whether it has the nutritive and staying power which the coolies want.*

These points having been determined in advance; by gradually increasing the proportion of Burmah rice in the estate rice issue a considerable saving on existing costs might be effected without either exciting the coolie's antagonism or suspicion, or putting the Burmese manufacturer out of his accustomed routine.

It must be noted that Burmah rice is *per se* in every way a better grain than the Bengal rice and obtainable more easily and in larger quantities with fewer middlemen between grower and consumer.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES RYAN.

Sunnycroft,
Ruanwella, 17th July, 1913.

The EDITOR,
Planting Gazette,
Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

CO-INCIDENCE OF MANURE AND WEEDS.

Mr. Elson's article is an interesting one and deserves a wider field of readers than your paper can give, at the same time I am at issue with him in his conclusion that the main cause of the present big percentage of weedy estates is due to seed carried by the wind, and that is what his summing up amounts to.

Why, may I ask if this is allowed, was the percentage of weedy estates 15-20 years ago, very small? Were estates then not surrounded more than they are now by chena, forest, etc., and if so, why were estates cleaner then?

The reason for weeding on estates being more costly, or troublesome now than it was years ago, I put down to three things:—

1st.—Cultivating is more general now than it was then, and the soil physically and chemically is in a better state to germinate seed?

2nd.—Undoubtedly a lot of seed is imported in castor cake, rape seed and ground nut, or gets into it in Colombo.

3rd.—Regular monthly weeding is not carried out by the younger planters of the present day, and weed seeds get buried deeply in manuring operations and do not germinate until brought to the surface—perhaps years afterwards. To carry out Mr. Elson's experiment properly, manure cake should be bought in bulk in Colombo and distributed afterwards from some centre, as it is only natural that the manure vendors would be specially careful if only small samples were sent to different districts.

In conclusion, I would mention that I have been on one of the most heavily manured estates for 18 years, and although the place has always been clean—and always was, I believe, since it was opened—I find it increasingly difficult to keep it so, due I am confident to cultivation, and seed which is imported in the different cakes.

Yours faithfully,
D. B. WILLIAMSON.

THE CO-INCIDENCE OF MANURE AND WEEDS.

The EDITOR,
Planting Gazette.

DEAR SIR,

I am glad that my recent article on the above subject has stirred up a spirit of controversy. I have received several private letters, mostly challenging my conclusions; at least two people have fallen foul of me in the *Times of Ceylon*; and I have been favoured with an advance copy of Mr. Williamson's letter, which appears in this issue. I am particularly interested in the last named, because both Mr. Williamson and Sunnycroft estate are well known to me.

I cannot here deal with the private letters, but will proceed to those that have appeared or are appearing in print. "Twenty-five years" tells us that he once opened an old weed pit and that the out-turned soil very speedily ran green with weeds. I can beat that. Mr. D. S. Cameron told me two years ago that he once cut a watercourse which crossed an old weed pit. Weeds very quickly sprang up in the loose soil of the weed pit, but none appeared along the remainder of the watercourse. It must be remembered, however, that the contents of a weed pit are extremely rich in humus. Tennyson remarks of Nature, that "of fifty seeds she often brings but one to bear;" and it is safe to conclude that that solitary seed finds some rich little pocket to favour its existence. It is, of course, possible that the moisture in a weed pit extends the vitality of a weed seed beyond its allotted span; but let me give "Twenty-five years" a poser. Let him open a weed pit in a dry February when no wind is blowing, and another in a wet July when the Monsoon is virulent; then compare results.

I agree with "An Agriculturist" that it is improbable that weeds are carried by manures; but it is a scientific absurdity to say that it is impossible. I have been dealing with crushed manures for many years, and I have never found any of them so finely ground that I could not separate the various grains with the naked eye and the point of a needle. The spores of certain fungi possess a diameter which may be reckoned in thousandths of a millimetre. Indeed, the opponents of the theory of synthetic life and the advocates of the dissemination of life through space claim that there are life germs altogether beyond the compass of the microscope, and these would be necessarily of a vegetable nature. If "An Agriculturist" will place some of his crushed manures on a microscopic slide beside certain of our weed-seeds he will readily discover which looms largest.

I would like to ask Mr. Williamson a question. In the days of heavy tea cultivation Sunnycroft was surrounded by clean estates. Are those neighbouring estates clean now; I don't know, since in one portion of his letter he casts aspersions on the competency of the rising generation. If his neighbours are

weedy, who can be surprised that the rich soil of Snnnycroft gives a ready welcome to the caprices of the wind?

I repeat my contention. The prevalence of weeds is mostly due to wind-borne seed carried from adjoining weedy areas. Can you not, Sir, induce the Parent Association to move in the matter, either on the lines of my article or of those suggested by Mr. Williamson?

Yours etc.,
FRED. S. ELSON.

Rilhena Group,
Pelmadulla, 13th August, 1913.

THE EDITOR,
The "Planting Gazette."

DEAR SIR,
I notice with considerable pleasure that Mr. H. Scoble Nicholson has anticipated my suggestion that an Official Map of Southern India be published and that he has the matter already in hand.

Judging from Mr. Scoble Nicholson's description of the Map about to be published it should meet with the requirements of all and sundry.

Please send me two Maps when you have received your supply.

Yours faithfully,
F. E. RUSSELL.

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 13th August, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

DEAR SIR,
I beg to give below for your information the total number of coolies shipped at the 4 Ports at Tuticorin, Ammapatnam, Tondi and Pamban as per Government returns up to—

31st July, 1913	...	...	78,094
31st July, 1912	...	...	69,843

Yours faithfully,
H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

DYNAMITING VERSUS FORKING FOR SUBSOIL.

SIR,
I wrote recently to the *Times of Ceylon* to suggest that for subsoiling in tea, an 18 in. fork would do the work sufficiently well, and at a cost that would probably be at the utmost only one-third of the cost of dynamiting.

A correspondent signing himself K.V. in criticising my letter points out that the 18 in. fork would not deal with hard pan at a depth of 6 ft. to 8 ft. His criticism is very suggestive. What is hard pan? If you dig deep enough in any soil you are bound sooner or later to come to a subsoil that is impermeable to rainwater. Would such a subsoil at a depth of 6 ft. be called hard pan, or is the term limited to an impermeable soil at a short depth below the humus?

Another point suggested by K.V.'s letter is this: What is the desirable depth of subsoil disturbance? Does it depend in any way on the rainfall?

For instance, if 18 in. or 2 ft. would be sufficient to absorb the rainfall without wash, would anything be gained by a still deeper disturbance? I cannot find any authoritative decision on these points in the books at my disposal, and I think that an expert's opinion would be interesting.

Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR ANSON.

The CHAIRMAN,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy,

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 7th August, 1913.

RESTRICTION ON THE IMPORTATION OF TEA SEEDS INTO THE DUTCH EAST INDIES.

SIR
I am directed to forward to you for information the enclosed copy of despatch No. 404 dated the 11th July, 1913, received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies regarding the above subject.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
D. W. ARNOTT,
for Colonial Secretary.

RESTRICTION ON THE IMPORTATION OF TEA SEEDS INTO THE DUTCH EAST INDIES.

Downing Street,
11th July, 1913.

SIR,
I have the honour to transmit to you the paper noted below on the subject of the importation of Tea Seeds into Dutch East Indies.

I have the honour, &c.,
(Signed) L. HARCOURT.

The Officer Administering
The Government of Ceylon.

The Hague,
2nd July, 1913.

FROM H. M. MINISTER AT THE HAGUE
FOREIGN OFFICE.

SIR,
I have the honour to report that it is stated in the "Nieuwe Courant" of the 30th ultimo that with a view to preventing the introduction of plant diseases and injury to existing tea plantations, the Netherland East Indian Government have promulgated an ordinance restricting the importation of tea seeds.

It will be prohibited to import tea seeds into the Netherland East Indies unless they have been examined by an expert designated by the Director of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce and permission to import them has been granted by that expert. The prohibition will also apply to the objects and materials used as packing for the seeds.

The examination will take place at Tandjong Priok exclusively. The ordinance will enter into operation for the outlying possessions on August 31st next.

I have, etc.,
(Signed) ALAN JOHNSTONE.

The Right Honourable,
SIR E. GREY, BART, K.G. &c., &c., &c.

Ceylon Labour Commission.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS.

RECRUITING FIGURES.—The month of July shews a total of 11,610 coolies against 11,239 despatched during the same month last year from the Agencies of this Commission. The first half of the month indicated that the improvement would be more substantial than has ultimately proved to be the case. Good rain in various parts of South India, together with the Andi Festival, has undoubtedly checked recruiting. I am led to believe that this falling off is temporary and that matters will improve towards the

middle of August. The total number of coolies despatched from my Agencies for the current year at 31st July is 63,122, an increase of 9,545, which may be considered fairly satisfactory and indicates that there is a greater tendency to recruit at the Coast. The usual comparative statement is attached.

TRICHINOPOLY CIRCLE continues to shew fair improvement.

MAHURA AND SALEM CIRCLE are about the same as last year.

CHITTOOR AND PALGHAT.—I regret to see shew a slight falling off, mainly because very little recruiting is being undertaken in the Telugu and Malabar Districts.

TELUGU RECRUITING.—This appears to be more or less at a standstill as far as Nellore and Guntur are concerned. Another large batch of coolies has been recruited from Cuddapah for one Matale estate similarly to last month, and reports from the Superintendent with reference to this labour are most encouraging. The coolies in question were recruited through the medium of local Missionaries, and I believe that the scamp of labour so recruited is most suitable for Ceylon estates. It is through the influence of such intermediaries that I am convinced much Telugu labour can be obtained for Ceylon if Superintendents can see their way to cater for their requirements, such as diet, customs, etc., which differ from the Tamil labour they have been used to. At Guntur I am informed that rain of late has been fairly plentiful, but the absence of recruiters from Ceylon is amply demonstrated by the fact that only three coolies have been sent from this Agency during the month of July. The total for the year is 181 as against 329 last year. A very disappointing result.

CHITTOOR AGENCY is making slow, but sure progress.

With regard to the MALABAR AGENCIES at Palgat and Cannanore I am informed by the Assistant Commissioner that there is ample labour to be had if recruiters will only come over, but the absence of any support from Ceylon is very noticeable, so I presume that Malayalam labour is not appreciated. The Straits are taking Malayalams in increasing numbers, so the question that arises is why should they not be suitable for Ceylon Low-Country estates. I am glad to note that schemes for direct recruiting are taking shape as in this particular district similarly to the Telugu country, not much progress can be made through the medium of the Tamil kangany who should, if possible, be confined entirely to his own sphere of influence. Once the Tamil kangany is let loose in the Telugu and Malabar countries much harm will undoubtedly be done, whereas if direct recruiting is taken up in a businesslike and energetic manner, and care is taken to see that none but suitable labour is recruited, and that such labour on arrival in Ceylon is kept entirely distinct from the Tamil connections, and the kangany system it is, I am sure, bound to be successful. The services of suitable intermediaries will have to be obtained, as without their assistance it is an exceedingly uphill and often unprofitable task for a European to recruit labour.

CONVICTION OF MAHA UVA RAMASWAMY KANGANY.—I referred to this case last month and have to report that the twelve months rigorous imprisonment to which this man was sentenced for drawing money from the Ceylon Labour Commission under false pretences has been further enhanced by an additional month for preferring a false

charge against the Erode Railway Police. I append a short report on this case which will be circulated to all Superintendents in the hope that they will place such in a prominent place as a warning to kanganyes and coolies. A similar notice will be erected at all Agencies throughout the Commission.

PREADVANCE.—A case has lately come under my notice of a kangany signing a pronote for the receipt of the above payment, and subsequently on his return to Ceylon complaining to his Superintendent that he had not received the money. The kangany at the time of the transaction failed entirely to report the matter to the head office, presumably being content with the arrangement that the Agent would produce the money at the time he brought in coolies. Seeing the Agent has been subsequently dismissed from the service of this Commission it is impossible to recover the amount which is fairly large even if the statement of the kangany can be substantiated. Once the kangany has signed his pronote the amount is necessarily debited against his estate in the books of this Commission. I would ask the Superintendents to impress upon their kanganyes and coolies holding A. Forms that they should insist on full payment of preadvance being made at the Agency for which the A. Form is made out, and should they fail to obtain such payment to communicate immediately with the head office at Trichinopoly. It is impossible for me to prevent a fraud of this kind or to reimburse the estate when the complaint is made in Ceylon itself after a considerable lapse of time. It would be as well for Superintendents to encourage in every way the payment of preadvances as much as possible at Trichinopoly, where these payments are made by a European officer. At the time of payment all kanganyes and coolies are warned that they should immediately refer any grievances they may have to Headquarters, should necessity arise, and they are also provided with addressed Telegraph Forms for the purpose.

ESTATE COMPLAINTS.—Although these are not so frequent as formerly I am still receiving letters from Ceylon complaining that kanganyes are charged commission by Agents when registering coolies. So long as a kangany waits until he returns to his estate to make his complaint it makes it almost impossible to adjudicate in the matter. I am fully aware that this Commission is not free from what is no more or less than an immemorial custom throughout India, and I am not so foolish as to suppose that it is possible for me to entirely put a stop to these practices. I generally find that a complaint is made to me when the agent has rather overstepped the mark and been too greedy, but that under ordinary circumstances payment is as frequently offered by the kangany as it is demanded by the agent, and as long as these payments are of the usual average figure neither I nor the Superintendent know anything about it. I would suggest that Superintendents refuse to entertain any complaints so long as they are not made within one calendar month of the incident, and similarly the kangany should be informed that the limit of time on this side should not exceed one fortnight. I would point out that since my arrival in South India I have not been able to actually prove one charge against an agent for taking commission, and that the obstacles against my doing so are almost insurmountable as in nearly every case the complainant has preferred the charge on arrival in Ceylon. Acting however in many cases on strong suspicion, especially where

I have had agents about whom there have been many and similar complaints I have dispensed with their services, and the number of these dismissals to date is exceedingly large. I shall continue this policy, but so long as kanganies and coolies connive at extortion in the way that they undoubtedly do it is impossible to stamp it out altogether.

TELUGU VERNACULAR.—For those who wish to study this language I would recommend the Simplified Grammar or the Telugu Language, by Henry Morris, obtainable at Messrs. Higginbotham, Limited, Post Box No. 311, Mount Road, Madras, or through the medium of this Commission. Price Rs 3-50.

MAP OF SOUTH INDIA.—A supply of Madras Presidency Atlases have been sent to Kandy, and a stock will be kept here also and applicants supplied at a cost of Rs 5-00 each, exclusive of postage.

Yours faithfully,
H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

History of a case of drawing money from the Ceylon Labour Commission on false pretences last year.

One Maha Uva Ramaswamy Kangany brought a gang of coolies in October last to my Agency at Salem for registration and despatch to the estate. In the usual way the Agent examined the coolies, registered and advanced money on them to the kangany as per A. Form rate. The kangany allowed the coolies to bolt on the way and preferred a complaint to me that the police tampered with the said coolies and that they all refused and bolted. The matter was promptly referred to the police authorities who, after holding an enquiry, came to the conclusion that the complaint was false. Subsequent enquiries made by then Assistant Commissioner of Salem Circle and the Salem Agent elicited the fact that they were all bogus coolies purchased for the occasion, the kangany purposely brought them to the agency to receive advances on them and then allowed them to bolt. I promptly took up the matter and, with the permission of the estate Superintendent, lodged a complaint before the first-class Magistrate at Salem, who secured the return of the kangany through Indian Police to Salem from the estate. He was tried and convicted to one year's rigorous imprisonment for the above charge and, in addition, he was sentenced to one month's similar imprisonment for preferring a false charge against the Erode Railway Police.

Chittoor, 6th August, 1913.

The CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSIONER,
Trichinopoly.

JULY CAMP.

DEAR SIR,

During this Camp I covered :—

By Rail.....473 miles
By Road.....198 „

Total... 671 miles.

In the afternoon of the 14th July I left for Katpadi. I found there that a complaint had been made by the Superintendent of Police against a woman kangany which

I went into and reported to Head Office. The next morning I inspected the Agency and left for Polur. From Polur the next day I went on an advertising run among the villages on the road to Kadaladi, the place where some months ago the Assistant and a peon of Villupuram were reported to have been beaten. In Kadaladi, after a long talk with the villagers about Ceylon and the good prospects for coolies there, I put the question about the beating of the Assistant Agent and peon. All professed utter ignorance of the event and said that if a peon had come to the village they would certainly have known about it, but they had never seen a Commission peon. In Polur I met two kanganies working there, and made reports of their movements.

On the 17th I went east by road to Medungunam, passing through on my way the village of Settopattu (or Chetput), where I had a long talk with the villagers and saw a cooly woman from Ceylon, getting news through her and the man's father of a kangany on the same estate.

The next day I went by road south to Gingi, doing a lot of talking and spreading notices in the villages by the way. I also went some distance off the main road to Gingi and visited other villages. There were no kanganies along this road. I find that the farther one gets away from the railway in any direction the fewer kanganies one is likely to find, though in all these places one hears of people who have gone to Penang or Natal. The professional recruiters in the pay of these places are more enterprising than the kangany from Ceylon, who, when he gets to his native village, often merely takes a hand in the current field-works and does very little else. He, in fact, takes a little holiday and supports himself by odd jobs or lives on his family and the advances given him by his Superintendent.

From Gingi I went some distance along the Tindivanam road and along the Tiruvannamalai road in search of a kangani, but did not find him. I then set out for Villupuram, and, owing to two punctures, did not get there till eight o'clock at night. From Nedungunam to Villupuram the roads are execrable, though not so bad as the Salem-Atur road, and it was sometimes all I could do to keep myself in the saddle. The next day in Villupuram my back tyre burst and I wired to Madras for another, as I did not care to trust my spare—an already worn and repaired one for the rest of the camp.

On the 21st I inspected the Agency at Villupuram and received a wire calling me in to Trichinopoly. I left for Head Office by the night mail and was at Trichinopoly for two days, arriving back in Villupuram on the morning of the 24th. The kangany, Venkateiya, who at Polur made a complaint against the peon Ethirajulu turned up in Villupuram as he said he would and I went into the case. It seemed to me that the kangany's story was true. It was supported by a woman of the place who came forward as a witness, by the evidence of the other coolies and kanganies at the Agency. The peon is dismissed in accordance with instructions received from you at Head Office. I also, after some trouble, came to an arrangement with the landlord of the office building here which I have sent in to you for your approval.

On the 26th I went to Tiruvannamalai by train. From Tiruvannamalai I went some distance along the Gingi road on a run of advertisement. I also still wanted to find the village of Papampatti and see a kangany there. I found the village, but it was just within Gingi taluk

where the sign-post on the road shows the boundary, and I was told that there was another village of the same name 12 or 15 miles south of Tiruvannamalai and another one in Polur taluk. So I had to give it up.

From Tiruvannamalai I went on to Vellore and there found many kanganyes and coolies, or heard news of them in the villages round about and have sent in a report of each.

I have now been over the greater part of the roads in N. Arcot District and a good many in the north of S. Arcot and the south of the Chingleput and Chittoor Districts. I have made four different camps to some extent join up in area with practically no overlapping except unavoidably by rail and have visited most of the more important places in these areas and innumerable villages. During the "off" season, when there is much less recruiting going on, I propose to devote my attention more to the Telugu Country than I have hitherto been able to do, as I think there is a lot of advertisement wanted there that would do good and some of the agents want galvanising into more life.

On the 23th I returned to Headquarters in Chittoor.

Yours faithfully,
J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Chittoor, 5th July, 1913.

The CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSIONER,

Trichinopoly.

JUNE CAMP.

DEAR SIR,

During this Camp I inspected five Agencies and covered:—

By Rail	...	...	791 Miles.
By Road	...	...	232 "
			1,023 Miles.

In the afternoon of the 11th June I started by rail for Cuddapah arriving there at about midnight, and inspected that Agency the following day. I am afraid I have rather neglected Cuddapah lately; I should like to know very much more about the district, but have never had time to stop there. The next day I went to Madras to pick up the motor cycle and went on the same evening to Arkonam to enquire into the case of Densworth Estate Visvasam kangany. On the 14th I started for Salem, arriving there the following morning. Having over night sent on arrangements for meals, early the next morning I went by road to Atur.

This road is the very vilest I have ever had the misfortune to go over. I arrived, very bruised, shortly after ten o'clock to find the agent away on an enquiry at a village some 18 miles distant. The Agent did not come back until five o'clock in the afternoon, when I went rapidly through his books and cash and managed to start back to Salem at about a quarter to six, covering the distance of 36 miles to the station before eight o'clock. The next day I could not sit a motor cycle and could scarcely unclothe my hands. What with the bad roads and the possibility of the Agent being away it is mistake to try to inspect this Agency in one day, and it leaves no time to find out anything about the place.

The next morning (the 18th) I went by road to Namakal and inspected that Agency in the afternoon. This road is almost as bad as that to Atur, for the first 22 miles after leaving Salem, but just after passing the 22nd milestone Trichinopoly District begins and the road suddenly changes into a very good one. Both these roads have been well exploited and the people know all about Ceylon and prefer Penang.

The following day I went down the Trichinopoly road visiting the villages. Here also the people say "Penang" as soon as one opens one's mouth. I met one man whose brother was a cooly in Ceylon and got the opinion from him—after he had read the advertisement—that one gets just enough to exist on there. One can do the same thing here, so why make the journey? In Penang one gets very much higher wages and is allowed to retain the whole of them and can send money to one's family and come back wealthy besides. One is not cheated by the kangany taking half one's rice when he is giving it out; one has one's passage, &c., paid and does not lay the foundation of a debt which grows to enormous proportions in the kangany's hands. All this from a countryman on the roadside. The mention of a long sea voyage made no impression whatever and, indeed, I do not think the coolies think so much of this as is thought. They are prepared to go through with it as a necessary affliction.

The next day I went back to Salem again and inspected the Agency there in the evening.

Round about Atur there were very few roads and I am told that most of them dwindle into mere hill tracks. I believe that these hilly places are excellent for recruiting coolies, but Europeans going there would do well to take tents, and, if possible, a horse to get about on. The land-owners in the larger villages are generally opposed to emigration, but in the wilder parts there is no such hindrance.

From Namakal, on the other hand, good roads go in many directions and a great part of the country could be visited by cycle or motor. Ten miles of good road takes one to the foot of the Kulli Hills inhabited by "Maleiyalis" (mostly Vellalas, I believe), who will go to Ceylon.

Both from around Atur and from around Namakal large number of coolies go to the Straits, but I am sure that if estate Superintendents and others could tell the coolies that they would get—and keep—all their pay and all their rice and would not be burdened with debts very much more recruiting would be done in these parts.

On the 21st I went by rail to Dharmapuri and stayed there for two days, visiting some of the villages and instructing the new Agent in his duties. Beyond Dharmapuri there is practically new ground where until the middle of last month there was no railway. From Dharmapuri, having sent on my heavy Saman the night before, I started out next day to go to a place called Marandapalli by road. My clutch, however, was not acting properly and was heating up badly in spite of oil, and I could make no headway against a heavy wind, so I was compelled to go by train after all. But I am told I missed only one village in the 21 miles. From Marandapalli coolies have gone both to Ceylon and to the Straits. The place is almost entirely Tamil in spite of the Canarese form of the word (I believe it means "Village of Slaughter.") There are only some 20 houses, in which Canarese is spoken and all understand Tamil.

The ghaut being too steep for the cycle from this place, I did the 34 miles to Hosur by train. I am sorry that I had no time to stop at the other places up the line; I am sure a visit to each place would have been useful, but it was my intention to go across country from Hosur to Krishnagiri and so to Tirupathur and I had been already 16 days in camp. But notices were given out in the train and at the stations to the gatherings there, whom the train had not ceased to interest, and I was spoken to by several people who seemed to take an interest in my coming. I discovered that Mr. Daly, the Burma recruiter, who wishes to recruit for Ceylon, had been up the line before me and had evidently done a lot of talking. A man at Nagataurai station told me that Mr. Daly had promised to make him a recruiting Agent. Immediately on my arrival at Hosur station I was told by a minor official that the Collector had issued instructions that Ceylon recruiting was to be "helped" in every way.

Unfortunately at Hosur my clutch stuck altogether, and I could do nothing with it. I discovered afterwards that there was some grit in between the clutch plates which had scored them beyond repair and jammed them fast.

At Hosur I called on the Sub-Collector, Mr. Burn, who seemed interested in what I had to tell him and who also mentioned Mr. Daly. Mrs. Burn was also very pleasant and hospitable. (I should have said that I had no opportunity of seeing the Collector, Mr. Bedford, at Salem as he was up at Yercaud).

On the 27th I left Hosur for Collector.

Hosur is mostly Canarese, but the people seem to speak Tamil and Telugu with equal readiness. The town is only three or four miles from the Mysore boundary and 27 miles from Bangalore on a good road. It is slightly higher than Bangalore.

I believe that all up this line recruiting should be excellent and that the line should make a considerable difference to the returns at Dharmapuri Agency.

I must now return to the Namakal countryman's story. It is an old story and I have heard it many times before, but I was to hear it twice again in Dharmapuri. The new Agent there, when telling me of the large recruiting for Penang in the neighbourhood, said that Ceylon was not a favoured place compared with Penang and proceeded to quote several instances of coolies who had come back from Ceylon with stories of having been swindled and starved. Free passages were ridiculed: the Superintendent might say that the passage was paid, but the coolie was charged with it all the same and with many other things that he knew nothing about, and the kangany continually took it out of him in rice and pay. It was no use suggesting that the coolie should complain to the Superintendent: the coolie was not allowed to go near the Superintendent. Some returned coolies were actively dissuading people from going to Ceylon by spreading these tales, which unfortunately nobody can refute. There is very little mention of ill-treatment by the Superintendents, except that they simply did not care.

At the travellers' bungalow was staying the Rev. R. C. Porter. As soon as this gentleman heard who I was he came and planked himself down in a long chair beside me and began an account of the woes of his people who had gone to Ceylon coupled with tales of those who had returned from Penang in triumph and bought houses and land. It

was simply a repetition of the countryman's tale. As usual I did my best to assure him, against my own convictions, that these were tales of the past and that things were very different now in Ceylon and was met, as usual, with polite thoughtfulness.

Until the coolie can receive and retain for his own use all his pay and all his rice Ceylon will have great difficulty in competing with the Straits, notwithstanding that, as our advertisement puts it, Ceylon can practically be said to be an outlying part of India. I knew that these things were happening on many estates in Ceylon while I was there, but I thought comparatively little of it then. I know better now.

I believe I have written to you in this way several times before, but I think it will bear repetition.

Yours faithfully,

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

ERODE AGENCY.

There are no doubt lots of coolies to be got in the Coimbatore District, but the class of kangany that frequents the Erode Agency is not the kind of man who is likely to do much good in the recruiting line, judging by those that I saw on my last visit, and by the men I have interviewed to-day.

G. S. DUPON,
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

15th July, 1913.

CUDDAPAH AGENCY.

I believe that the reason that very little recruiting is done here now is that it was previously done almost entirely by Tamil kanganies. The coolies working on estates under them are probably not doing well, and those who have returned to the district have given bad accounts of oppression by these Tamil kanganies on the estates. The figures are about the same as last year, but that is disappointing.

ATUR AGENCY.

Judging from what I was able to gather of the surrounding country I think this Agency has been placed very well to tap good areas. It should be a great convenience to recruiters and ought to become a very successful Agency. Penang recruiting is very successful here.

MAMAKAL AGENCY.

Notwithstanding the remarks in my Camp Report more use should be made of this Agency. The Agent tells me that he has received no A. Forms addressed direct to Namakal Agency, all having been transferred from some other Agency. In my excursions in the vicinity I found the people all gasping for rain and saying that they had had none for years and had almost forgotten what crops looked like. The wages for any work that there is to do are very poor, not more than two annas being apparently the usual thing.

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

TANJORE AGENCY.

The Agency figures show an increase on account of the crops in the district being good of the beginning of the year, which has brought more old coolies back to India to harvest them, and they in their turn have returned

with coolies. Pattukotta and Arantangi taluks are the best for recruiting purposes, as there is a greater scarcity of food there.

E. V. B. LEVINGE,
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.

Comparative Statement showing the number of Coolies despatched monthly from each Agency during 1912 and 1913.

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	Mar.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.	July.	Total.
Headquarter Circle.														
Trichinopoly ...	1912	740	1,036	1,776	1,556	3,332	3,276	6,608	6,057	12,665	6,088	18,753	4,529	23,282
" ...	1913	994	1,201	2,195	1,453	3,648	4,081	7,729	7,639	15,368	7,193	22,561	4,723	27,284
Tanjore ...	1912	42	94	136	165	301	231	532	347	879	323	1,202	259	1,461
" ...	1913	109	146	255	149	404	192	596	347	943	447	1,390	318	1,708
Turaiyur ...	1912	5	32	37	6	43	28	71	137	208	215	423	104	527
" ...	1913	5	27	32	49	81	79	160	159	319	233	552	139	691
Musiri ...	1912	3	15	18	29	47	39	86	142	228	109	337	87	424
" ...	1913	20	4	24	8	32	132	164	202	366	206	572	177	749
Puducotah ...	1912	89	108	197	121	318	166	484	214	698	348	1,046	272	1,318
" ...	1913	56	111	167	65	232	228	460	308	768	437	1,205	277	1,482
Manaparai ...	1912	111	103	214	135	349	129	478	344	822	297	1,119	319	1,438
" ...	1913	224	141	365	171	536	308	844	425	1,269	446	1,715	438	2,153
Total...	1912	990	1,388	2,378	2,012	4,390	3,869	8,259	7,241	15,500	7,380	22,880	5,570	28,450
" ...	1913	1,408	1,630	3,038	1,895	4,933	5,020	9,953	9,080	19,033	8,962	27,995	6,072	34,067
Chittoor Circle.														
Chingleput ...	1912	120	105	225	136	361	305	666	287	953	562	1,515	505	2,020
" ...	1913	99	132	231	228	454	424	878	440	1,318	492	1,810	556	2,366
Arkouam ...	1912	201	67	268	56	324	154	478	272	750	264	1,014	287	1,301
" ...	1913	87	112	199	78	277	164	441	240	681	342	1,023	368	1,391
Villupuram ...	1912	118	156	274	266	540	325	865	412	1,277	501	1,778	618	2,396
" ...	1913	166	177	343	328	671	388	1,059	682	1,741	654	2,395	582	2,977
Katpady ...	1912	216	257	473	140	613	177	790	292	1,082	415	1,497	577	2,074
" ...	1913	252	231	483	150	633	245	878	385	1,263	342	1,605	320	1,925
Coconada ...	1912	...	19	19	10	29	29	58	11	69	49	118	38	156
" ...	1913	6	15	21	37	58	closed	58	closed	58	closed	58	closed	58
Cuddapah ...	1912	4	11	15	22	37	2	39	34	73	22	95	37	132
" ...	1913	15	2	17	13	30	20	50	23	73	171	244	132	376
Nellore ...	1912	9	...	9	18	27	2	29	...	29	29	58	9	67
" ...	1913	17	25	42	52	94	9	103	17	120	6	126	13	139
Gunur ...	1912	...	63	63	8	71	155	226	43	269	27	296	33	329
" ...	1913	...	...	...	...	...	22	22	5	27	111	138	3	141
Chittoor ...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" ...	1913	...	...	...	2	2	13	15	14	29	22	51	27	78
Anantapur ...	1912	89	24	113	13	126	...	126	...	126	...	126	...	126
" ...	1913	closed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total...	1912	757	702	1,459	669	2,128	1,149	3,277	1,351	4,628	1,869	6,497	2,104	8,601
" ...	1913	642	694	1,336	883	2,219	1,285	3,504	1,806	5,310	2,140	7,450	2,001	9,451

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	Mar.	Total.	April.	Total.	May	Total.	June.	Total.	July.	Total.
Madura Circle.														
Tataparai ...	1912	256	191	447	312	759	265	1,024	522	1,546	607	2,153	573	2,726
" ...	1913	267	352	619	433	1,052	761	1,813	741	2,554	801	3,355	678	4,033
Madura ...	1912	275	255	530	293	823	355	1,178	603	1,781	563	2,344	537	2,881
" ...	1913	220	162	382	149	531	421	952	787	1,739	766	2,505	616	3,121
Tinnevelly ...	1912	94	122	216	136	352	174	526	247	773	291	1,064	340	1,404
" ...	1913	121	88	209	147	356	238	594	364	958	399	1,357	400	1,757
Ammapatam ...	1912	8	54	62	60	122	119	241	142	383	240	623	228	851
" ...	1913	43	43	86	49	135	130	265	179	444	174	618	109	727
Tondi ...	1912	109	177	286	134	420	329	749	321	1,070	860	1,430	423	1,853
" ...	1913	111	109	220	129	349	215	564	406	970	439	1,409	402	1,811
Pamban ...	1912	8	14	22	89	111	20	131	70	201	93	294	132	426
" ...	1913	11	17	28	75	103	43	146	78	224	68	292	75	367
Total...	1912	750	813	1,563	1,024	2,587	1,262	3,849	1,905	5,754	2,154	7,908	2,233	10,141
" ...	1913	773	771	1,544	982	2,526	1,808	4,334	2,555	6,889	2,647	9,536	2,280	11,816
Salem Circle.														
Salem ...	1912	126	132	258	157	415	362	777	326	1,103	313	1,416	346	1,762
" ...	1913	63	124	187	210	397	226	623	217	840	168	1,008	166	1,174
Bangalore ...	1912	23	17	40	14	54	37	91	57	148	34	182	64	246
" ...	1913	22	29	51	18	69	14	83	35	118	nil	118	50	168
Guntakal ...	1912	6	16	22	4	26	9	35	24	59	32	91	27	118
" ...	1913	76	31	107	81	188	96	284	87	371	81	452	75	527
Hubli ...	1912	..	27	27	12	39	31	70	44	114	10	124	39	163
" ...	1913	19	25	44	2	46	closed	46	closed	46	closed	46	closed	46
Tirupathur ...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" ...	1913	...	22	22	15	37	34	71	14	85	14	99	12	111
Namakal ...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" ...	1913	18	15	33	58	91	55	146	83	229	87	316	69	385
Dharmapuri ...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" ...	1913	...	35	35	36	71	30	101	14	115	13	128	59	187
Atur ...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" ...	1913	3	26	29	48	77	61	138	44	182	67	249	39	288
Nanjangoda... ..	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" ...	1913	...	...	...	12	12	28	40	29	69	19	88	18	106
Total...	1912	155	192	347	187	534	439	973	451	1,424	389	1,813	476	2,289
" ...	1913	201	307	508	480	988	544	1,532	523	2,055	449	2,504	488	2,992
Palghat Circle.														
Erode ...	1912	134	135	269	144	413	224	637	302	939	174	1,113	202	1,315
" ...	1913	145	187	332	262	594	211	805	216	1,021	274	1,295	179	1,474
Dindigul ...	1912	75	90	165	139	304	242	546	289	835	295	1,130	357	1,487
" ...	1913	168	154	322	178	500	263	763	403	1,166	357	1,523	328	1,851
Karur ...	1912	46	67	113	83	196	118	314	96	410	118	528	119	647
" ...	1913	64	71	135	61	196	147	343	184	527	87	614	103	717
Palghat ...	1912	36	66	102	56	158	62	220	82	302	167	469	178	647
" ...	1913	84	90	174	71	245	41	286	105	391	91	482	140	622
Tirur ...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" ...	1913	6	5	11	10	21	closed	21	closed	21	closed	21	closed	21
Cannanore ...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" ...	1913	...	2	2	15	17	9	26	10	36	56	92	19	111
Total...	1912	291	358	649	422	1,071	646	1,717	769	2,486	754	3,240	856	4,091
" ...	1913	467	509	976	597	1,573	671	2,244	918	3,162	865	4,027	769	4,796
Grand Total...	1912	2,943	3,453	6,396	4,314	10,710	7,365	18,075	11,717	29,792	12,546	42,338	11,239	53,57
" " ...	1913	3,491	3,911	7,402	4,837	12,239	9,328	21,567	14,882	36,449	15,063	51,512	11,610	63,122

THE PLANTING GAZETTE.

AGENCIES.	PREVIOUSLY.					JULY.					TOTAL.					G. TOTAL.				
HEADQUARTERS CIRCLE:—	M.	F.	Ch.	Infra.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infra.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infra.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infra.	Total.
1. Trichinopoly	12,218	4,416	4,383	1,566	22,581	2,521	963	887	352	4,723	14,737	5,379	5,250	1,918	27,284					
2. Tanjore	934	250	123	83	1,390	211	48	41	18	318	1,145	296	164	101	1,708					
3. Tiraiyur	282	128	107	55	552	63	31	28	17	139	325	159	135	72	891					
4. Musiri	281	110	142	39	572	77	40	44	18	177	358	150	186	55	749					
5. Pudukottah	704	204	229	88	1,205	184	46	55	12	277	868	250	284	80	1,482					
8. Manaparai	1,201	296	163	55	1,715	248	96	74	22	438	1,447	392	237	77	2,153					
	15,598	5,404	5,127	1,866	27,995	3,282	1,224	1,129	437	8,072	18,880	8,828	8,258	2,303	34,067					
MADURA CIRCLE:—																				
7. Tataparai	2,050	863	417	225	3,355	418	129	80	58	878	2,466	792	497	278	4,033					
8. Madura	1,587	506	318	94	2,505	383	125	93	25	816	1,970	831	401	119	3,121					
9. Tinnevely	906	205	153	88	1,357	284	47	59	10	400	1,190	252	217	98	1,757					
10. Ammapatnam	378	121	90	29	818	68	18	20	5	109	446	137	110	34	727					
11. Tondi	896	284	130	99	1,409	233	108	26	35	402	1,129	392	156	134	1,811					
12. Pamban	148	78	44	24	292	32	22	17	4	75	180	98	61	28	387					
	5,965	1,855	1,157	559	9,536	1,416	447	285	132	2,280	7,381	2,302	1,442	691	11,818					
CHITTOOR CIRCLE:—																				
13. Chingleput	1,040	428	175	189	1,810	310	145	56	45	558	1,350	571	231	214	2,366					
14. Arkonam	598	247	75	103	1,023	201	97	28	42	368	799	344	103	145	1,391					
15. Villupuram	1,491	551	213	140	2,395	350	126	62	44	582	1,841	877	275	184	2,977					
18. Katpadi	966	383	129	127	1,605	204	71	21	24	320	1,170	454	150	161	1,925					
17. Coconada	26	19	10	3	58	...	...	Closed	...	...	28	19	10	3	58					
18. Cuddapah	156	54	17	17	244	71	38	13	10	132	227	92	30	27	376					
19. Nellore	92	22	8	4	126	8	4	0	1	13	100	26	8	5	139					
20. Guntur	73	38	18	11	139	2	1	0	0	3	75	37	18	11	141					
21. Chittoor	32	12	5	2	51	12	8	8	3	27	44	18	11	5	78					
	4,474	1,750	850	576	7,450	1,158	488	186	189	2,001	5,632	2,238	838	745	9,451					
SALEM CIRCLE:																				
22. Salem	813	195	138	82	1,008	111	25	19	11	106	724	220	157	73	1,174					
23. Bangalore	96	15	4	3	118	37	8	2	3	50	133	23	8	6	168					
24. Guntakal	314	83	37	18	452	54	11	7	3	75	368	94	44	21	527					
25. Hubli	28	8	8	2	46	...	...	Closed	...	...	28	8	8	2	48					
26. Tirupathur	59	19	13	8	99	9	1	1	1	12	68	20	14	9	111					
27. Namakal	204	60	42	10	316	41	12	15	1	69	245	72	57	11	385					
28. Dharmapuri	78	30	12	8	128	42	10	4	3	59	120	40	18	11	187					
29. Atur	136	56	28	29	249	27	3	7	2	39	163	59	35	31	288					
30. Nanjangode	64	16	7	1	88	12	3	1	2	18	76	19	8	3	106					
	1,592	482	289	141	2,504	333	73	58	26	488	1,925	555	345	187	2,992					
PALGHAT CIRCLE:—																				
31. Erode	830	280	91	114	1,295	11	41	14	13	179	941	301	105	127	1,474					
32. Dindigul	938	331	159	95	1,523	225	81	25	17	328	1,163	392	184	112	1,851					
33. Karur	348	116	110	42	614	67	17	11	8	103	413	133	121	50	717					
34. Palghat	361	64	40	17	482	109	13	13	5	140	470	77	53	22	622					
35. Tirur	14	4	2	1	21	...	...	Closed	...	...	14	4	2	1	21					
36. Cannanore	54	15	15	8	92	18	2	1	0	19	70	17	16	8	111					
	2,543	790	417	277	4,027	528	134	64	43	769	3,071	924	481	320	4,798					
	30,172	10,281	7,640	3,419	51,512	8,717	2,366	1,720	807	11,810	36,889	12,647	9,360	4,226	63,122					
	(15,512)					(11,610)									19,12...	53,577				

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JULY, 1913.

District.	Talug.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Trichinopoly Circle.						
Trichinopoly (Musiri Agency) ...	{ Musiri ... Kulitalai ... }	Fair	4	3	Good	
Turaiyur Agency ...	{ Musiri ... Turaiyur ... }	Fair	4	2	Good	
Manaparai Agency ...	Kulitalai ...	Fair	4	3	Good	
Tanjore District.						
(Tanjore Agency) ...	{ Arantangi ... Kumbaconam ... Mannargudi ... Mayaveram ... Nannilam ... Negapatam ... Papanasam ... Pattukottai ... Shiyali ... Tiruthuraipoondi }	Fair	3	2	Fair	The recruiting prospects are not good owing to cultivation.
Ammapatnam Agency ...	{ Arantangi ... Pattukottai ... }	Nil	5	2½	Fair	
Ramnad District.						
(Pambam Agency) ...	{ Paramakudi ... Tiruvadanalli ... Muthukolatur ... Abyram ... }	Fair do do Good	5½ 5 6 5	4 3 2½ 3	Fair do do do	
Tondi Agency	{ Tiruvadanie ... Tirupatur ... Sivaganga ... Paramakudi ... }	Not good	6 to 4	3 to 4	Good	
Puducottah State ...	{ Alangudi ... Thirumayam ... Kolatur ... }	Nil do do	4½ 5½ 4½	3 3½ 3	Fair Poor do	
(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON, Ceylon Labour Commissioner, 4th August, 1913.						
Salem Circle.						
Salem ...	Salem ...	... Ragi and Cholam crops poor for want of rain	5	0-2-6	Bad	Coolies are not available owing to Magnisite work.
(Dharmapuri Agency)	Dharmapuri ...	... Ragi crop poor	4	0-2-0	Fair	Coolies are available, but for want of proper advertisement many go to Penang.
	Krishnagiri ...	... Ragi crop is very good in few places only	4	0-2-0	Fair	Coolies are available in the surroundings, but they have no faith in the kangannies. If any Superintendent comes he may get a good number of coolies. Coolies can be recruited if kangannies have family connection.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JULY, 1913.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.	
			Men.	Women.			
			Annas.	Annas.			
Salem Circle.							
	Trichengode	... Very poor	4	0-2-0	Poor	There are many Zemindars in this taluk who discourage coolies going to Ceylon in order that their agricultural operations may not suffer for want of coolies.	
	Hosur	... Ragi poor	4	0-2-0	Fair	Canarese coolies are available, and they know Tamil also as they are connected to Tamil district.	
	Uttangarai	... Ragi poor	4	0-2-0	Fair	Coolies are available, but few kangaries work in this taluk.	
	Omalar	... Ragi and Cholam poor	4	0-2-0	Bad	The Magnesite works being close coolies go over there.	
Trichy District	Namakal	... Crops fair	4	0-2-0	Fair	Coolies can be recruited if kangaries have family connections there.	
Chittoor Dist.	Tirupatur	... Crops fair	4	0-2-0	Bad	The people of this taluk are accustomed to go to Kolar Gold Fields, hence coolies are not available.	
Mysore Province.							
Bangalore Agency	Bangalore	... Good	4	0-2-0	Moderate	There has been sufficient rains in these parts in July and Ragi has been sown.	
	Magadi	... do	3	0-1-6	do		
	Hosepet	... do	3	0-1-6	do		
	Kanigal	... Bad	3	0-1-4	Good		
	Nelamangalam	... Good	2½	0-1-6	do		
	Thodu Belapuram	... do	3	0-1-6	Moderate		
	Hosukottai	... do	3	0-1-6	do		
	Anakal	... do	3	0-1-6	do		
Karur Agency.							
Trichinopoly and Coimbatore	Karur and Dharpuram	Good	3 to 4	2 to 0/2/6	Fair	There is a good deal of work going on in the fields at present, the river Amaravathi being in flood. There are very few kangaries recruiting near this agency.	
(Signed) G. S. DUPEN, Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner, 27th July, 1913.							
Erode Agency.							
Coimbatore	Erode	...	Fair	0/3/6 to 5	2 to 0/2/6 Wages mostly paid in kind.	Good.	I consider that the prospects are good, I have lately been camping in S. Coimbatore District, at most of the villages I stopped at there were coolies who were willing to go to Ceylon, the kangaries will not go to the out-of-the-way villages to recruit labour, consequently they com-
	Bhavani	...					
	Gobichettypoliem	...					
	Satiyamangalam	...					
	Palladam	...					
	Peria Dharpuram	...					
	Udamalpet	...					
	Kollegal	...					

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,
27th July, 1913.

Erode Agency.

Coimbatore ...	Erode	...	Fair	0/3/6 to 5	Wages mostly paid in kind.	Good.	I consider that the prospects are good, I have lately been camping in S. Coimbatore District, at most of the villages I stopped at there were coolies who were willing to go to Ceylon, the kangaries will not go to the out-of-the-way villages to recruit labour, consequently they complain that they cannot get labour.
	Bhavani	...					
	Gobichettipolliem	...					
	Satiyamangalam	...					
	Palladam	...					
	Peria Dharpuram	...					
	Udamalpet	...					
	Kollegal	...					

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,
27th July, 1913.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JULY, 1913.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Palghat and Cannanore Agencies.						
Malabar	Palghat	...	Good	0/3/6 to 5 2 to 0/2/6	Very good	Recruiting prospects are very good, there are any amount of coolies available, both in North and South Malabar. There are very few kanganies recruiting in Malabar.
	Walawanad	...				
	Ponnani	...				
	Calicut	...				
	Chirakal	...				
	Kottayam	...				
	Kurumbanad	...				
	Ernad	...				

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,
27th July, 1913.

Dindigul Agency.

Madura	...	{ Dindigul ... Palany and Dha- rapuram ... }	Good	3 to 4½	0/2/6 to 3	Good	This agency is still registering a large number of coolies monthly.
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(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,
1st August, 1913.

Madura Agency.

Madura	...	{ Madura ... Melur ... Periakulam ... Nelakottai ... Thirumangalam ... Palany ... Dindigul ... Ramanad ... Thirupuvanam ... Thirupathur ... Sivaganga ... Mana Madura ... Kamuthy ... }	Good in the Madura Melur, Thi- rupuvanam, Mana Ma- dura and Paramagudi Taluks. Fair in others.	4 to 5	0/2/6 to 3	Fair	Good taluks for recruiting are Thirupuvanam, Thirupathur, Kamuthy, Melur, Nelakottai and Palani.

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,
31st July, 1913.

Tinnevely Agency.

Tinnevely	...	{ Ambasamudram ... Tenkasi ... Tinnevely ... Nanguneri ... Sankarankoil ... Tirunchendoor ... Srivaikuntam ... Koilpatti ... }	Fair	3 to 4	2 to 0/2/6	Fair	The agent states that the recruiting prospects are fair, I think that the prospects are good, if good kanganies are sent to this district they should be able to get labour, coolies are also going from Travancore.

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,
27th July, 1913.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JULY, 1913.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Tinnevely Agency.						
	Nanjangode	...	Good	5	0-2-6	Bad
						Agricultural classes are very busy since a fortnight, and consequently the recruiting prospects are not good.
(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON, Ceylon Labour Commissioner.						
Chittoor Circe.						
Villupuram	Villupuram	...	Kumbu crop failure. Paddy harvested. Ground nut crop almost digged.	5	3	Good
	Tindivanam	...	Kumbu crop failure. Ground nut sowing commenced, paddy harvested.	3	2	do
	Gingee	...	do	do	do	do
	Cuddalore	...	Kumhu sowing, paddy harvested.	do	do	Moderate
	Virudachalam	...	Kumbu crop good, ragi young. Ground nut digged.	do	do	do
	Tirkoilur	...	Paddy excellent. Ground nut sowing.	do	do	do
	Kallakurechi	...	Ragi ripe. Kumhu harvested. Paddy harvested. Sugarcane young.	do	do	do
	Nellore	...	Paddy and cholam being sown.	2	1	Bad
	Sullerpet	...	Paddy harvesting good, ragi harvesting good.	do	do	do
	Vengatakiri	...	do	do	do	do
Nellore	Kovoor	...	Paddy being sown.	2½	8 ps.	do
	Kavali	...	do	2½	do	do
	Atmakur	...	do	do	1	Fair
	Udayagiri	...	Paddy and cholam being sown.	2½	1½	Bad
	Kandukur	...	do	2	1	do
	Rapoor	...	do	2½	do	Good
	Kanigiri	...	do	2	do	Bad
	Podili	...	do	do	do	do
	Dharsi	...	do	do	do	do
	Gudur	...	do	2½	2½	Fair
(Signed) J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE, Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner.						

Prospects in this district still decidedly good. There is a tremendous lot of recruiting going on here.

I do not think the prospects here are very good this month.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JULY, 1913.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Chittoor Circle.						
Chittoor ...	Chittoor	... Paddy and ragi growing poorly.	3 to 4	2 to 3	Fair	I think prospects here are as good as ever they were. There has been little or no rain.
	Kalahastri	... Paddy growing poorly.	do	do	do	
	Karvetnagar	... Paddy and ragi growing poorly.	do	do	Indifferent	
	Palmanair	... do	do	do	do	
	Vayalpad	... Young paddy indifferent.	do	do	Fair	
	Madanapally	... do	do	do	Bad	
	Punganur	... Young paddy, ragi and cholam indifferent.	do	do	Indifferent	
	Chendragiri	... do	do	do	do	
Tamil Districts.						
North Arcot...	Arcot	... Paddy young, good, ragi still young, good.	4	2	Bad	Plenty of coolies still available in N. Arcot.
	Vellore	... Ragi still young, good.	do	do	Moderate	
	Guduyatam	... do	do	do	Good	
	Walaja	... do	do	do	do	
	Polur	... Paddy still young, good.				
		... Ragi still young, good.				
		... Kumbu nearly ripe.	do	do	Moderate	
	Arni	... Ragi still young, good.	do	do	Bad	
	Waudiwash	... Ragi growing poorly.	do	do	Indifferent	
	Tiruvannamalai	... Paddy good.	4 to 5	2 to 3	Fair	
Chingleput ...	Arkonam	... Ragi good, cholam fair.	do	do	Good	There has been a little rain here and the forwarding of coolies will fall off somewhat.
	Cheyar	... Paddy and ragi fair.	do	do	Fair	
	Chingleput	... Young paddy good.	5	3	Fair	
	Conjeevarem	... Ragi sown.	do	do	do	
	Madurantagam	... do	do	do	do	
	Ponnerly	... Cumbu growing, good paddy sown.	4	2½	do	
	Saidapet	... Ragi sown and growing, good paddy sown.	6	3½	do	
	Tiruvallur	... Ragi and ground nut are sown, paddy sown.	4	do	do	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JULY, 1913.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Telugu Districts.						
Cuddapah	Cuddapah	... Little rain tilling grounds.	4	2	Moderate	The best time for recruiting in this district is just ending, but there are still good chances of getting coolies.
	Pulivendla	... do	3	do	Good	
	Kamalapuram	... do	do	do	do	
	Roychoty	... do	do	do	do	
	Rajampet	... Young crops under wells.	4	do	do	
	Sidhout	... Little rain tilling grounds.	3	do	Bad	
	Prodatur	... do	do	do	Good	
	Badvel	... do	do	do	do	
	Jammalmadugu	... do	do	do	do	
Guntur	Guntur	... Ragi, kumbu and chilli grains are in fertilize growth.	4	3	Bad	I believe this to be decidedly a good season for recruiting in Guntur.
	Satnapalli	... do	do	do	do	
	Venukonda	... do	do	do	do	
	Repalli	... do	do	do	do	
	Tenali	... Paddy sown.	do	do	do	
	Bopatla	... do	do	do	do	
Anantapur	Anantapur	... Cholan and ragi still young.	4	2	Moderate	
	Dharmavareem	... do	4½	do	do	
	Gooty	... do	3½	1½	do	
Bellary	Bellary	... Cholan, ragi and cotton nearly ripe.	4	2	Moderate	
	Adoni	... Paddy still young.	3	1½	Bad	
	Hospet	... Cholan and paddy nearly ripe.	4	2	Moderate	
	Rayadrug	... Ragi still young.	3	1½	Bad	
Kurnool	Kurnool	... Paddy still young, good.	3	1½	Bad	
	Nandyal	... do	4	2	do	
	Tadpatry	... do	do	1½	Moderate	

(Signed) J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner.



SABARAGAMUWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE COOLIES AND GOVERNMENT WORKS.

RAILWAY EXTENSION TO GODAKAWELLA.

DISTRICT TELEPHONES.

A meeting of the Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association was held at the Wace Memorial Hall, Ratnapura, on Saturday afternoon, when Mr. E. R. E. Geddes presided, and there were also present:—Messrs. G. M. Crabbe, John Paterson, P. E. Bridge, W. G. Berry, P. D. G. Clark, G. M. Brown, J. Graham, sur., C. A. Grant, W. Hendry, A. D. Sly, J. D. Hoare (Hon. Secretary), J. Stogden, R. Searancke, E. Maberly Byrde, H. G. Greig, W. Ferguson, F. W. Pearson, M. S. Davidson, and others.

APOLOGY.

Mr. F. J. POYNTZ ROBERTS wrote regretting his inability to attend as he was visiting in the Morawak Korale district.

J. P. AND U. P. M.

The following correspondence was read with reference to this matter:—

THE GOVERNMENT AGENT,
Ratnapura.

May 18th, 1913.

SIR, I beg to state that at a general meeting of this Association held on the 26th of April, 1913, it was resolved to put forward the following gentlemen's names for the positions of J. P. and U. P. M. in the districts as indicated:—

Mr. R. Brough, Galatura estate, Ratnapura, Kukul Korale District, Mr. P. D. G. Clark, Nivitigala Gonn, Ratnapura, Weganga District.

I should be obliged if you would favour me with your views on the foregoing.

I also beg to intimate that it was decided to submit to you Mr. Brough's name as successor to Mr. Drummond-Hay on the Provincial Road Committee.

I beg to remain, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
J. D. HOARE.

May 23rd, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Sabaragamuwa P. A.,
Hapugastenne, Ratnapura.

SIR, I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 18th instant, and to enquire whether the gentlemen whom it is proposed to appoint J. P. and U. P. M. consent to take up the appointment.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) R. N. THAINE,
Government Agent.

Nivitigala, Peenkande,
Ratnapura, May 31st, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Sabaragamuwa, P. A.

DEAR SIR,

In reply to your letter of the 27th May, I shall be pleased to accept the appointment of J. P. and U. P. M. for the district should the Government confer the same on me.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) P. D. G. CLARK.

Galutara,
Ratnapura, May 31st, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Sabaragamuwa, P. A.

DEAR SIR,

With reference to yours of the 28th May, will you please inform the Government Agent that I am quite willing to take up the appointment as J. P. and U. P. M. for this district.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) R. BROUGH.

June 9th, 1913.

FROM THE GOVERNMENT AGENT,
Sabaragamuwa, Ratnapura,
TO THE SECRETARY,
Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association,
Ratnapura.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter No. 1,501 of May 31st I have the honour to enquire what is the necessity for the proposed appointments, and whether any complaint have been made by the estates interested in these two appointments, regarding any delay or difficulty in holding inquests.

2. I would point out that there are two inquirers into sudden deaths within 2 and 3 miles from Galatura estates, viz., the Katemahatneya and the Korale.

3. With regard to the Nivitigala Group of Estates, as the nearest enquirer lives 8 miles away. I am prepared to support your recommendation, but before representing the matter to Government I shall be glad to know your reasons in detail for the necessity of the two appointments.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) R. N. THAINE,
Government Agent,
Sabaragamuwa.

The CHAIRMAN said the letters were satisfactory enough. In the one case in which they had put forward Mr. Clark's name Government were prepared to recommend that, but in the case of Mr. Brough they knew now that there were two or three enquirers within a short distance of him, and he thought that they might withdraw Mr. Brough's name in this connection.

Mr. BRIDGE seconded, and this was agreed to.

A letter was received from the Provincial Road Committee stating that Mr. Brough's name as forwarded by the Association has been recommended to Government as member for Sabaragamuwa.

RAILWAY EXTENSION TO GODAKAWELLA.

June 4th, 1913.

FROM THE GOVERNMENT AGENT,
Sabaragamuwa Province.
TO THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association, Sabaragamuwa Province.

SIR,

I have the honour to request you to inform me whether in the event of railway being extended to Godakawella, any of the Rakwana estates will make use of the proposed station at Godakawella, or whether as now they will continue to cart the estate produce to Rakwana and thence along the main road to the nearest station.

2. It has been suggested that if there is a station at Godakawella the estates might erect an aerial tramway for a central spot in Rakwana district, and by this means transport produce to Godakawella.

3. I shall be glad to have your views on this proposal or to know whether the proposal is likely to be adopted by the intended estates.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) R. N. THAINE,
Government Agent,
Sabaragamuwa.

Most of the estates replied in favour of transport to Madampe.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

The following correspondence relating to railway matters was read:—

May 18th, 1913.

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

SIR, I beg to state that at a general meeting of this Association held on April 26th, 1913, the subject of Railway Extension to Pallawella and Opanaike was brought forward, and that I was instructed to write to you asking you if you could see your way to inform this Association whether either or both of these extensions are likely to be undertaken as to construction in the near future. Soliciting the favour of a reply in due course.

I remain, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
J. D. HOARE,
Honorary Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, May 28th, 1913.

THE HONORARY SECRETARY,
Sabaragamuwa, P. A.

With reference to your letter dated May 18th on the subject of railway extension to Pallawella and Opanaike, I am directed to inform you that surveys will be made, but that no decision as to construction has yet been come to.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) D. W. ARNOTT,
for Colonial Secretary.

THE KUKUL KORALE ROAD.

Mr. P. D. G. CLARK asked if there was any correspondence in reference to this road.

The SECRETARY: There has been no correspondence since the last meeting.

Mr. Clark asked if attention might not be called to it again, as it might be included in the October estimates?

THE CHAIRMAN: I think, Mr. Clark, there can be no harm done in asking our Secretary to remind Government of the fact and see what can be done.

It was agreed that this course should be adopted.

A COOLY DEPOT.

The following correspondence took place on this matter:—

THE SECRETARY,
The Ceylon Labour Commission,
Kandy.

SIR, I beg to state that at a general meeting of this Association held on the 26th April, 1913, it was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously:—

"On account of the difficulties experienced in Colombo by our coolies going from Ceylon to India to recruit that the Ceylon Labour Commission Committee be asked to open a depot in Colombo similar to the one in Tuticorin, with a staff of peons to meet the trains and then escort the coolies to the steamer after they have been supplied with the necessary tickets at the depot."

I should be obliged if you will acquaint me in due course with the decision your Committee arrives at with regard to this.

I beg to remain, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
HON. SECRETARY.

Kandy, July 15th, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Sabaragamuwa, P. A.

DEAR SIR,

With reference to your letter of May 18th last, I beg to forward herewith a copy of a resolution passed at a meeting held on the 11th instant.

COPY.—"Resolved that Government be asked to give facilities for the renting of a suitable site for the establishment of a native resthouse for the accommodation of kanganyes on their way to India."

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.

The SECRETARY stated that the scheme was sent round to the different Associations. K. V. supported it unanimously, but Hewaheta did not consider it necessary.

THE K. V. AND THE RECRUITING AGENCY.

The K. V. resolution with regard to the proposed recruiting agency was next read.

The CHAIRMAN: I believe this is Mr. Mayow's resolution.

The SECRETARY: Yes.

Mr. SLY said he believed that Mr. Paterson had sent in a different resolution from that Association, to the effect that the present European staff of the Coast Agency should be increased with the object of helping on recruiting at the coast. Until they got an answer from the District Associations with reference to this he did not think that they could very well support the K. V. resolution. He proposed that they wait until they hear from the district Associations with reference to Mr. Paterson's resolution.

The CHAIRMAN: Let it stand over till the next meeting. Perhaps it would be as well to do as Mr. Sly suggests as owing to a little error on my part and Mr. Hoare's over Mr. Paterson's resolution they had not circularised the Association. Only two meetings however had been held, so they had not lost very much. When this resolution was put before the different Associations they would be in a better position to discuss the K. V. one.

Mr. SLY then asked that Mr. Paterson's resolution be read to the meeting.

This was done. (The resolutions will be found in the meeting of the Association reported on May 1st).

Mr. BRIDGE. It is either increasing the present staff or going on with the K. V. resolution.

The CHAIRMAN then asked for authority to circularise the other Associations and this was granted.

THE MATALE RESOLUTIONS.

The now famous Matala labour resolutions were brought forward.

The CHAIRMAN said he did not know that there was anything that he could say on these resolutions. They could not support them if they were going to support the Proprietors' Labour Federation. "It means legislations straight away Mr. Thorpe" he concluded.

Mr. BROWN asked if the P. L. F. resolutions were going to be discussed that day or not.

The CHAIRMAN: It comes under the head of labour. I think myself that there are none of us who want legislation: we are all for Federation. I do not see how we can discuss the resolutions except in Committee. If any member is willing to discuss the resolutions in Committee we will do so. Personally I have always been for combination. I think we can settle our own troubles. Let us go in for Federation and show them the 75 per cent.-100 per cent. if possible.

The various resolutions were then read out and some discussion ensued in Committee.

In general meeting the CHAIRMAN said that with reference to the Matale resolutions they had decided to throw them out he thought. It simply meant legislations and he did not think they were for that.

Mr. BROWN proposed that they be not discussed until September, and this was seconded by Mr. SLY and carried.

NOTICE COOLIES AND GOVERNMENT.

A matter of great importance to estate superintendents and owners was also discussed in Committee, and it is satisfactory to see that the matter was also referred to in general meeting, as the point involved is one that affects the whole planting community, and that is the question of notice coolies and Government works.

Mr. CRABBE said he thought that it had been generally recognised that there had been a good deal of notice giving in the district of estate coolies who were going on to the Pelmadulla railway extension works. It started in a small way, but was likely to increase considerably. It was generally known that some person or persons in Ratnapura was taking it up for all he was worth. It was a great shame that they had to recruit the labour and Government employed it on their works. Government had been asked over and over again to have their labour recruited the same as they had on the estates. Up to date they had not had a satisfactory reply in the matter. He would therefore like to bring up the following resolution:—"In view of the apparent tampering with the labour force in the district that this Association should circularise its members to give specific cases of where coolies have given notice to estates and quitted without paying their debts, and who are now employed on the Pelmadulla railway extension and other Government works.

Mr. BRIDGE seconded, and said he knew himself of several cases lately where coolies had given notice and had been taken on the railway line—that was the extension to Pelmadulla. He had just had a few himself give notice—the first since he had been in the island. His kanganyes also told him they also were employed on this extension. He thought it a great shame that the railway people did not recruit their own labour as they had to do from the coast—and pay pretty heavily too for it. Coolies coming from Ragama were caught on the road and approached to leave the estate. It was done by these contractors on the railway helped by some people in Ratnapura. He would like to see some thing done to prevent this.

The resolution was then unanimously carried.

DISTRICT TELEPHONES.

THE CHAIRMAN said that the next item on the agenda was district telephones. Mr. Hutson, of the firm of Messrs. Hutson & Co., had travelled a long way to be with them that day and give them any information he could, and he thought that they should accord him their hearty thanks

for having come. (Hear, hear.) The Telephone Committee had met and Mr. Hutson was good enough to come up and give them all the information wanted with regard to the system proposed for Ratnapura, Pelmadulla, and Balangoda. They would have different exchanges and each would be connected up by trunk lines. The question of trunk lines was for Government to decide, and he did not think that it would be wise to ask Government just now until they got definite figures as to what it was going to cost them, because it was going to be a sound administrative point of view for Government to connect up these lines. Mr. Hutson has given them some figures which showed that the metallic system would cost Rs. 150 a mile exclusive of posts. The Chairman expressed the opinion that it would work out at about Rs. 160 a mile for ordinary work. Leaving the trunk lines alone let them make a start. They had been agitating for it for some time. Mr. Crabbe started it but nothing had been done. They had some reasonable figures before them and he asked them to make a start, so that it could be included in the coming year's estimates. Government said the trunk lines cost Rs. 32 a mile. It was a big expense and he thought that it would be just as well to leave that and start on district telephones first. Each district would have a Secretary, and they could make a start that way.

Mr. HUTSON here interposed, and pointed out that the cost per mile would be more than the Chairman's estimate of Rs. 160 supposed. The cost of poles was considerable.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that he had only made a shot at the figure and quite expected it to be a good deal more.

A good deal of discussion with regard to detail then ensued—Mr. Hutson answering a good many questions, but regretting that he could not give an estimate of the total cost per mile until he had figures of the number of estates likely to come on one lot of poles, and mileages, etc. He also pointed out that the metallic system was essential if Government was to be interested and gave information in Committee, which, eventually it was decided that each district should draw up the information asked for to enable Mr. Hudson to give an estimate, and Mr. SLY proposed—"That Government be asked whether they intend in the near future to erect a telephone exchange in Ratnapura, and telephone systems in its vicinity, and if so, what date they contemplate starting the work; in the event of their not so deciding to do this work whether they would be prepared to grant a license for Ratnapura district to an approved licensee for the erection of district telephones."

Mr. HOARE seconded and it was unanimously carried.

Messrs. Pearson and Paterson were added to the Telephone Committee.

HOSPITALS.

The CHAIRMAN said he would like to know whether a new hospital was going to be put up at Ratnapura. He heard that one was to be erected on the site of the old resthouse. If it was true, he thought they ought to be in time and apply to see if the authorities would erect two wards for the planting community in Saffragam Province. He would also like to find out when it was proposed to start the Pelmadulla Hospital at Kahawatte. There was a lot of coolies there and more were coming, and the sooner the erection was started the better.

Mr. SLY said he would like to propose that the names of Messrs. Villiers and Tuckness be sent on to Government as Hospital Visitors for Balangoda district.

This was agreed to.

THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

The Board of Agriculture wrote asking that a European and a Ceylonese be appointed for the district to serve on the Board.

Mr. SLY: Is there any salary attaching to the post? (Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN: I do not think there is.

Mr. Crabbe was asked to be allowed to be elected, and consented.

A NEW RECEIVING OFFICE.

Government wrote asking if the Association was in favour of a new receiving office being established at Gallella, in the neighbourhood of Galboda and Hapugastenne factory.

Mr. FERGUSON remarked that the more receiving offices they got the better, and he felt they ought to agree to it.

On the motion of Mr. PATERSON, seconded by Mr. GRANT, a resolution in favour was passed.

THE SURVEY.

The Surveyor-General's Department wrote drawing attention to the topographical survey now being conducted, and mentioned that Mr. F. L. Baker with headquarters at Diyatalawa was working in the Association's district. The letter also asked for assistance to be given to Mr. Baker, who is assistant superintendent, when working in the locality of the estates belonging to members of the Association.

THE RATNAPURA MAIL.

The G. A. wrote as follows:—

Ratnapura Kachcheri,
May 22nd, 1913.

SIR, I have the honour to state that it has been represented to me that the 5-30 p.m. train from Ratnapura to Colombo has frequently arrived too late in Colombo to catch the Up-country night mail.

2. The Ratnapura train is due to arrive at Colombo at 10 p.m. The night mail leaves Colombo at 10-10 p.m.

3. It is proposed to ask the General-Manager, C.G.R., to advance the departure of this train by 15 minutes.

4. I shall be glad to have the views of your Association on this matter and to know whether you concur in this proposal.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) R. N. THAINE,
G. A., Sabaragamuwa.

Mr. GREIG suggested that it should be advanced by half an hour, but no action was taken in the matter.

A LIQUOR SHOP APPLICATION.

A letter was read from a Mr. de Silva asking the Association to support his application for a foreign liquor license at Ketetenne.

Mr. PATERSON strongly objected to support being given. He pointed out that the man already had a whole-sale license which was quite sufficient, and that if the license was granted as asked for it would lead to drinking by kanganies and coolies.

A VOICE: Gin again.

Mr. CLARKE thought that Mr. Ingram might be consulted, but it was pointed out that Mr. Paterson seemed

most affected and if Mr. Ingram was not in favour of the action taken another application could be made.

On Mr. BRIDGE seconding, no action in support was taken.

NEW MEMBER.

Mr. N. J. Jonklaas of Karawita estate applied for membership to the Association, which was granted.

VETERINARY STAFF.

The K. V. resolution asking for an increase in the veterinary staff was supported on the motion of the CHAIRMAN seconded by Mr. GREIG.

REFRESHMENT CARS AND FANS.

The following letter was read from Mr. Greig:—

Illabbuluwa,
Ratnapura, May 21st, 1913.

HON. SECRETARY,
Sabaragamuwa P. A.,
Ratnapura.

DEAR SIR,

I should be glad if the following suggestion could be put forward under the heading of Railways at the next P. A. meeting.

"That Government be asked to put on a refreshment car on K. V.-Ratnapura line; also to instal fans in first-class compartments."

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) H. G. GREIG,

Mr. GREIG said he had since heard from Government that they would not put refreshment cars on the line, and he now suggested that a third-class compartment should be turned into an ice chest and drinks kept, so that they could be obtained by passengers. Referring to the question of fans he said that Up-country refreshment cars going into a cooler climate had them, and he felt that they were a necessity on the K. V. line which was practically the same level as Colombo all the way, and hotter perhaps. Fans if provided give them much more comfort, specially to the ladies who, he was glad to see, were evidently becoming more in the district.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.

A circular relating to this was laid on the table.

THE KANDY COMMITTEE.

On the motion of Mr. SLY, seconded by Mr. CRABBE, Mr. G. Brown was elected on the Kandy Committee in place of Mr. Drummond Hay, who has left the district.

This was all the business and a vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

THE MORAWAK KORALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

QUESTION OF MOTOR TRANSPORT.

A general meeting of the above Association was held at the Deniyaya resthouse on Monday, the 28th July. Present:—Messrs. W. A. Anderson, M. S. Furlong, W. A. Elwell, D. M. Rajapakse, and W. M. Wade-Gery (Chairman and Hon. Secretary.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from the Chairman, P.R.C., re the appointment of a new resthouse keeper, the condition of the resthouse, and the steps approaching same.

It was resolved that the Chairman, P.R.C., be written to and thanked for his letter, and that he be informed

that, although there is an improvement in the condition of the resthouse, the steps approaching same are still unattended to.

J. P. AND U. P.M.

Read letter from the Government Agent *re* the appointment of a J. P. and U. P. M.

Proposed by the CHAIRMAN that Mr. W. A. Anderson's name be submitted as J. P. and U. P. M. for the estate and hospital at Deniyaya.—Carried.

MAILS.

Read letter from the Postmaster-General in reply to letter *re* late arrival of mails at Deniyaya.

It was resolved that the P. M. G. be again written to, and that it be pointed out that the delays are really not caused either by rain, road under repairs, tree fallen across road, landslip on road or floods, but owing to the bad condition of the horses used in the coach. Also that the P. M. G. be asked whether letters cannot be sorted a little quicker at Deniyaya.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Read letter from the Hon. Secretary, Planters' Benevolent Fund, *re* Ceylonese subscribers.

Read letter from the Hon. Secretary S. P. C. A.

Mr. D. M. Rajapakse having expressed his willingness to act as Hon. Agent at Deniyaya, it was resolved that his name be forwarded to the Hon. Secretary, S. P. C. A.

Read letter from A. G. A., Matara, enclosing subscription list *re* proposed Agri-Horticultural Show. The list was circulated among the members present.

It was proposed by Mr. W. A. ELWELL and seconded by Mr. M. S. FURLONG that the Association subscribe Rs. 10 towards the proposed Show.—Carried.

Read resolution from the Sabaragamuwa Association *re* the opening of a C. L. C. depôt in Colombo to attend to coolies arriving from and leaving for India.

It was resolved that the resolution referred to be supported by this Association.

LIQUOR SHOP FOR DENIYAYA.

The CHAIRMAN stated that as he had heard a rumour that a liquor shop license had been granted for Deniyaya he had written to the A. G. A., Matara, to ascertain whether the same was a fact, and he was informed that it was, a letter having been received by him (the A. G. A.) stating that there would be no objection to such a license.

On referring to the letter it was found, however, that the then Hon. Secretary had written that he thought there would be no objection to wholesale license, but that the matter would be placed before the next meeting of the Association. At that meeting the granting of the license was strongly opposed, and the A. G. A. was written to on the subject.

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to the A. G. A. calling his attention to the second letter in which it was clearly shown that the Association strongly objected to the granting of any license whatever.

TRANSPORT.

Mr. D. M. Rajapakse, the forwarding agent, having submitted a statement of what increase in the present carting rates he wanted the matter was discussed, and it was decided to grant certain extra rates.

Mr. Rajapakse informed the members that he could only carry on the carting until arrangements for the running of motor lorries could be made.

HARBOURING BOLTERS.

Read correspondence *re* the harbouring of bolters by a certain neighbouring native estate.

It was resolved that a copy of the correspondence be forwarded to the Parent Association.

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

The CHAIRMAN stated that after the last meeting the Colonial Secretary had been written to and it was pointed out that a 2½ ton lorry was totally inadequate for this district, and the cost of running same prohibitive, and that Government was asked to reconsider the matter and sanction the running of a larger type of lorry. Government was also asked what immediate steps were being taken with a view to putting the Matara-Dikoya road into such a condition that lorries without modified regulations could be run.

The following reply had been received from the Colonial Secretary.

MOTOR LORRIES.

To THE HON. SECRETARY,

The Morawak Korale Planters' Association.

Sir,

In continuation of my acknowledgments of your letters of the 5th and 20th June, and 9th July, respectively, I am directed by the Officer Administering the Government to state that the use on the Matara-Deniyaya road of a larger type of lorry cannot be permitted at the present time.

As regards paragraph 2 of your letter of the 5th June I am to state that His Excellency has every reason to believe that the work of construction of passing places on this road will be sufficiently advanced by the end of November to admit of permission being given for the use of lorries under the unmodified regulations.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) D. W. ARNOTT,
for Colonial Secretary.

This was all the business, and the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

(Signed) W. M. WADE-GERY,
Hon. Secretary, M. K. P. A.

===== KNUCKLES, KELEBOKKA AND PANWILA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION. =====

VOLUNTEERING IN THE DISTRICT.

A Committee meeting of the above Association was held at Madulkelle at 1.30 p.m. on July 31st. Those present were: Messrs. T. Y. Wright (Chairman), Napier, Grey, Blacklaw, Thomas, Box, Hunt and Doudney (Honorary Secretary). This was followed by a general meeting at 2 p.m. at which the following also were present: Messrs. Moyes, Sealy, Russell, Word, Hemsted, Scott, Morley, Fraser (visitor). Bedingfield and Hopwood.

TRANSPORT.

The Chairman read correspondence *re* Mechanical Transport and suggested that this matter be referred to the sub-Committee previously appointed. This was agreed to.

The Chairman then proposed that Mr. J. Hall Brown be added to the sub-Committee above mentioned. This was agreed to.

TELEPHONES.

Telephones was the next item under discussion, and Mr. Greig proposed that subscribers who had received instruments should pay the value of the instruments into the fund.

This was seconded by Mr. Blacklaw and carried.

It was also decided that the annual fees from each Estate and the Post Office rent should be paid from the fund.

Mr. Box proposed that the Police Station at Panwila be connected up with the exchange.

This was seconded by Mr. Greig and carried.

ROADS.

Letters were read from the Provincial Engineer and the District Engineer re slips on the road.

The Chairman remarked that the Association's protest at the last meeting seemed to have had some effect.

LABOUR.

Read resolution from Matale P. A. re labour scheme, but the matter was not discussed, as it had been previously discussed at a general meeting of the Parent Association in Kandy.

Read resolution from the Kelani Valley P. A. re recruiting scheme.

Mr. Hunt proposed that this Association at the present juncture is not in a position to support this resolution. This was seconded by Mr. Greig.

An amendment was proposed by Mr. Hemsted and seconded by Mr. Scott that the K. V. P. A. be asked for further particulars.

On being put to the meeting the amendment was lost. Mr. Hunt's proposal was then put to the meeting and carried.

VOLUNTEERING.

The next item on the agenda was volunteering. The Chairman remarked: I have had volunteering put on the agenda just to keep this subject before you and not because I think that volunteering is slack in the district. I am proud to say the district has always done its duty as regards volunteering. It was the birth place of the C.M.R., when Colonel Reeves lived at Hoolo, and the Planters' Rifle Corps has always been well supported. Older residents in the district have done their duty and all that we can expect them to do now in showing their patriotism is to get the younger men under them to serve in one of the two Corps and to allow them to get away for their training at Camp, even if it cause a little inconvenience.

THE SECRETARYSHIP.

The election of Honorary Secretary was the next business to be gone through, and on the proposal of Mr. Doudney, seconded by Mr. Russell, Mr. Hopwood was elected to fill the post.

Mr. Blacklaw supported with one of his usual witty speeches.

The Chairman then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring Honorary Secretary, Mr. Doudney, remarking that Mr. Doudney had filled the post for the last 18 months and had got through a large amount of hard work with great success.

Mr. Blacklaw also supported and mentioned that Mr. Doudney's work had been considerably increased owing to the installation of the telephone system in the district.

Mr. Doudney replied and thanked the meeting and said that he had only done what anyone else would have done in the same post.

THE KANDY CEMETERY.

A letter from Mr. Shand was then read asking for support in the maintenance of the Kandy Cemetery.

Mr. Napier proposed that Rs. 10 be contributed out of the Association funds; but Mr. Blacklaw remarked that he did not agree with using the funds for the purpose on these contributions.

Mr. Box also thought that the funds might be better used, and Mr. Napier withdrew his proposal.

A subscription list was then passed round and liberally supported.

THE MAILS.

A letter was then read from the P. M. G. re the delivery of the mails, and on the motion of Mr. Doudney, seconded by Mr. Sealy, it was decided to leave the mail arrangements as they are at present.

The meeting then closed with a vote of thanks to the chair.

(Signed) H. HOPWOOD,
Honorary Secretary.

DIMBULA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Dimbula Planters' Association was held at the Sandys Thomas Memorial Hall on Monday afternoon, the meeting being a particularly long one. Mr. H. Hamilton Harding presided and there were also present:—Messrs. F. H. Layard (Chairman of the Parent Association), Rodney Mylius, G. C. Bliss, A. M. Cooper, E. Cowan, A. L. Gibson, W. H. Book, J. E. Baillie Hamilton, P. Healing, H. D. McMillan, J. H. Thomas, D. Maitland, F. W. LeFeuvre, A. E. Walford, S. Howard, T. S. Mason, H. H. Dendy, M. D. McNeill, S. E. James, H. G. Yates, H. M. McLeod, G. H. Collinson, T. R. A. Stranns, G. Scott, H. A. Grigg, A. S. Tranchell, L. E. Mercer, F. Oeffner, W. Sparks, and the Hon. Secretary Mr. Huntley Wilkinson.

VOTES OF CONDOLENCE.

Before the business proper began, the Chairman said. Before commencing with the business of our Association to-day, it is my painful and sad duty to mention to you the demise of two prominent planters of Dimbula, who have, as you know, recently retired to their rest. I refer to Mr. J. E. A. Dick-Lauder, and Mr. E. Rice Wiggin. I will ask you to kindly confirm my action in writing to the widows and families of both these late members of your district conveying to them the sincere sympathy of the members of this Association.

The vote was carried in silence, all standing.

DIMBULA HOSPITAL.

Correspondence was read with reference to the Associations' application for a female ward at this hospital. The members were informed that the D. P. W. had been instructed to furnish plans and estimates for a female ward of 12 beds, so that the sanction of the Finance Committee could be obtained to allow the work to be put in the supplementary votes as early as possible.

The CHAIRMAN expressed gratification that they had at last reached this stage, and proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. McMillan, the visitor, who had brought the matter before the Association and persevered with it.

This was heartily accorded.

SUBSCRIPTION LISTS.

It was announced with reference to the appeal on behalf of the Tropical School of Agriculture that the Association has realised Rs. 165, which Dr. Bahr acknowledged with thanks.

The amount of the Rosling testimonial contribution was also mentioned.

MORTALITY AND BIRTH RETURNS.

It will be remembered that at the last meeting, the Chairman and others in Committee gave some figures with reference to the mortality of the district. It was now announced that this had been printed and circularised to the members, and the Chairman now asked whether members would like to have the birth returns printed and circularised. He pointed out that these figures were often very useful to those who were short of labour, and that they would act as a sort of inducement to recruiting.

The list was ordered to be printed and sent round to the members.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

The following correspondence was read with reference to Talawakelle railway station:—

Preston, Agrapatana,
4th June, 1913.

The GENERAL MANAGER,
Ceylon Government Railway,
Maradana.

SIR,

I have the honour to bring to your notice several matters in connection with the above railway station for your kind consideration:—

1. I should be glad if you could instruct the station-master not to allow the approach to the railway station and entrance hall being blocked by sweet-meat sellers. Yesterday, when I drove to the station, the entrance was blocked by one of these people. I pointed out the matter to the station-master and he told the man to move, which he did, but in all probability he would return if no notice was taken. I understand that he has a license, but I think you will agree with me that the entrance to stations is hardly the place for these sort of people to sell their goods. This might be done with advantage outside the station . . . precincts.

2. With regard to the approach road to the station and goods shed respectively, I understand that the P. W. D. do not consider it a part of their duty to keep these roads in order, if I am correctly informed. If these roads are maintained by the Railway Department, I would deem it a favour if you would kindly instruct the officers responsible to maintain these roads in a better state of repair in the future. The road to the goods shed in particular, at this time of the year, becomes almost like a marsh, with the result that the carters, in their effort to get their load from the goods shed to the main road, do a lot of damage and make big ruts, which only enhances the difficulties of transport month by month in the wet weather. This is a very important matter, and I am sure you will . . . appreciate the difficulties we have to face with bullock cart traffic during this season of the year, in particular.

3. There are two rather important wants at this station in connection with the accommodation for the travelling public. Some few years ago, the platform on the east side was lengthened and covered in, but there is insufficient seating . . . accommodation. I counted only two seats in the whole length of this extension. I think you will find that there is room for a considerable increase in this . . . direction. Many respectable natives now occupy the general waiting-room, because there are no seats outside for their accommodation. If it could be possible . . . to enlarge the present waiting-room

by throwing in the parcel-room, or making that room into a second class waiting-room and having another room built elsewhere for parcels, it would be a great convenience at this station, which is at present cramped for the large district which it taps.

I shall be much obliged if you will go into these matters at your early convenience and afford us the necessary relief, which is most necessary to have carried out at your department's earliest convenience. A careful inspection, I think, will reveal to your mind the necessity for the proposed alterations and additions, and I solicit your favourable consideration of the matters referred to.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) A. HAMILTON HARDING,
Chairman, Dimbula Planters' Association.

Ceylon Government Railway,
General Manager's Office,
Colombo, 22nd July, 1913.

The CHAIRMAN,
Dimbula Planters' Association,
Preston, Agrapatana.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 17th instant and in reply to your letter of the 4th July, I have the honour to inform you that:—

(a) Suitable arrangements have since been made in connection with the sale of refreshments at Talawakelle station, and I trust there will be no further cause for complaint in this connection.

(b) The Public Works Department inform me that the passenger station approach road is in good order. With regard to the road or area behind the station, this has since been gravelled and preparations are being made to do up the goods-shed approach road. Materials are now on the site and work in hand.

(c) Two additional platform seats are being provided.

(d) I regret I do not see my way at the present time to carry out any structural alterations to Talawakelle station.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) G. P. GREENE,
General Manager.

The CHAIRMAN said with regard to the goods station road he went down on August 1st and measured the road from the goods station to the main road. The length was 600 feet by 31 ft. Only a small part had been metalled, and there were no workmen there. The road leading to the Railway Station at this time of the year was in a very bad condition, and he felt they should press on the General Manager the necessity of putting this road into first-class order.

It was agreed that this course should be adopted.

With reference to the extension of the waiting room the CHAIRMAN said he had written to the authorities on the subject hoping that some suitable accommodation would be provided, and he hoped they would confirm his action.

His action was confirmed.

REGULATION OF TRAFFIC.

In connection with the question of the regulation of traffic in Dimbula the Chairman said the matter had been brought up in Committee, and they did not consider it advisable to make it public. The public had been approached with a view to better regulation of traffic in Dimbula, especially in view of motor lorry traffic and more motor cars. They all knew the state of the roads at present, and they thought it advisable to approach the police, and that the carters should be taught to get out of the road when they heard a motor horn.

K. V.'s THANKS.

The Kelani Valley Association wrote expressing thanks to the Dimbula Association for having supported them in their request for more veterinary surgeons, and also asked for information as to the working of the doctor's scheme, which the Secretary said he had forwarded to the best of his ability.

THE STRETCHER

With reference to the question of a stretcher recently brought forward by the Chairman, Messrs. E. B. Creasy & Co. wrote that they could not supply for Rs. 50, instead of the amount previously mentioned. The stretcher was a design eminently suitable for estate work.

J. P. AND U. P. M.

A letter was received from the G. A. pointing out that there was no necessity for the appointment of another member in place of Mr. Sydney Smith, who is now at home.

STRENGTH OF THE POLICE STATION.

The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the fact of the understaffing of the Police Station, and stated that on paying a visit they were informed that the necessary steps would be taken to get the usual number of men there.

RULE 15.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the P. A. with reference to Rule 15 asking the Association to express an opinion on the view that Superintendents of estates should be registered as voters unless the agents or proprietors made some suggestion to the contrary.

Mr. MEGGET suggested that it should be referred to the agents, but the P. A. proposal was carried.

KANDY CEMETERIES.

Mr. P. R. SHAND, who is now at home, wrote sending further information respecting the Kandy Cemeteries (which has already appeared in the press), and the correspondence was passed around the table, together with a subscription list.

THE K. V. RECRUITING RESOLUTION.

Mr. Wynell Mayow's resolution with reference to a recruiting agency, passed at the K. V. Meeting was then brought up.

The CHAIRMAN said that as they had Mr. Layard present he would ask him to address the meeting on the subject.

PREMIUM ON RECRUITING.

Mr. LAYARD said he was not prepared to say anything definitely, but it did seem to him that this resolution did not give them any information. Mr. Mayow had no particular scheme in view, and merely wanted to put the idea forward that recruiting should be taken up by someone or other. He might tell them that he had received within the course of the last few days a letter from the Proprietors' Labour Federation enclosing a resolution passed by them at their meeting last week. He thought he could refer to that matter now because the offer had appeared in the *Planting Gazette* evidently with the sanction of the Chairman. The resolution was that the sum of Rs 15,000 be offered to the Planters' Association for the purposes of recruiting for members of the P. L. F. by the appointment of an Assistant Commissioner. It had always been said that the P. L. F. made some wonderful rules, but now they had shown them that they were also

quite willing to spend their money in pushing recruiting. This had not yet been accepted by the Coast Agency, but he supposed it would be accepted in the course of the next few days. He thought they would certainly agree that recruiting was going to ameliorate their troubles. If they filled the island without labour they would have no trouble at all.

The CHAIRMAN said Mr. Healing had brought forward a resolution with regard to this matter. The resolution was as follows:—In consideration of the fact that European recruiting at the Coast has not been found generally successful and very expensive in consequence, and also that the old method of recruiting has proved to be better this year than in previous years, the K. V. Planters' Association's resolution be not supported by this Association at present. It was this reason that had led him to suggest that Mr. Layard should give them some information.

Mr. LAYARD said his private opinion coincided with this resolution. This money would be more on the lines of assisting kanganyies in order to help them to spend their money in a better manner.

Mr. BLISS seconded the resolution.

Mr. LEFEUVRE asked if he might not speak to the resolution before it was put.

The CHAIRMAN replied in the affirmative, but thought no one wished to speak on it.

Mr. BLISS said he did not propose to say anything very much. It was clearly a matter that must come before the P. A., and their expression of support would be most valuable. Mr. Layard had pointed out that the sum of Rs. 15,000 was to be spent in the appointment of a European to be more less a direct recruiter. It must be made quite clear that it was to be spent only for members of the P. L. F. It was offered to the members of the Coast Agency Commission, but was only to be spent for the benefit of the P. L. F. There must be a great many who were supporters of the working of the Coast Agency, but who were not members of the P. L. F. He quite agreed that it was a handsome offer and that properly expended it might do good. It was not really an offer for further recruiting on the part of the Coast Agency Commission, as its benefits could only be applied to the members of the P. L. F. Mr. Bliss also pointed out that the K. V. proposal was likely to be very expensive. The difficulty would be to get the right class of men, and there would be some difficulty as to how the services of these men should be apportioned. The difficulties appeared to be insurmountable, Mr. Bliss concluded that he had been told that a scheme was to come before the P. A. at Kandy some day, and would possibly be a most useful one. (A voice: Hear, hear.) Until that day he did not think it would be wise to support the resolution.

Mr. LEFEUVRE asked if the Rs. 15,000 that had been offered would be available for one year. For all they knew the P. L. F. would cease to exist in a short time unless they got their 75 or 89 per cent. membership. Mr. Mayow's scheme seemed to him to be a very sound one. Mr. Layard had told them that this Rs. 15,000 was to assist recruiting. He thought Mr. Nicholson had been doing that ever since he had been in India. He thought that he always helped the kanganyies. He pointed out that this money was all that Mr. Mayow asked for. Mr. Healing's resolution reached against the P. L. F. proposal.

Mr. LAYARD said that at present the recruiting staff was not sufficient. Mr. Nicholson had estimated for another European to assist him in the new districts. They were unable to allow him that and the funds at their disposal did not render their recruiting as valuable as it might be. This sum meant one or two assistants. Mr. Bliss said that it was only for members of the P.L.F. It was not in the nature of a bribe, and he contended that also it would benefit others than the P.L.F. This body was unable to vote its funds for the benefit of others, and that was the reason for the proviso. He felt sure they should accept this offer, and he pointed out that if it proved a success a small rise in the cess would enable them to carry on the good work.

Mr. BLISS accepted Mr. Layard's statement that the proviso was because the P.L.F. were not empowered to do otherwise. Nevertheless he felt there should be some latitude in the manner in which it was spent for the benefit of others. If they accepted this money they should do so charily.

A MEMBER asked if the P.L.F. could vote this money without calling a general meeting, and the reply was given in Committee.

The resolution was then carried, Mr. LeFeuvre voting against.

THE COOLY CAMP.

The Sabaragamuwa resolution with regard to this matter was then brought up. Mr. Gibson had a resolution against the proposal, but Mr. Layard stated that the matter had been brought up at Kandy and received their support, and they were instructed to write and see if they could not arrange it. Mr. Nicholson was in favour of the Scheme being taken up at this end.

Mr. GIBSON hoped that the use of it would be optional.

Mr. BLISS pointed out the success of the Camp at Tuticorin and said that when the Colombo one was established they would be able to frank the cooly right through.

Mr. GIBSON: It must be optional.

Mr. BLISS: Entirely optional.

Mr. GIBSON then withdrew his resolution, and the Sabaragamuwa one was then carried.

THE DOCTOR'S BUNGALOW.

The following matter was before members with reference to this subject:—

DEAR SIRS,

Having received certain information which has led us to believe that a short history of the old European Doctor's Bungalow with other data might be found useful to some of the proprietors and their representatives of Dimbula Estates, we append the information which we hope may assist in the deliberations with regard to the proposed re-building of the European Doctor's Bungalow.

Acreage.—The acreage of the land according to the deed is 3 roods, 12 poles. This area affords ample space for the buildings and grounds necessary for the convenience of the European Doctor of the District.

Title.—The Dimbula Association holds the title for the land on which the European Doctor's Bungalow hitherto has stood. According to a letter received from Messrs. F. J. and G. de Saram, the lawyers of the Association, dated 25th April, 1913, the lands belong to the District, and they say that a permanent building can be safely erected thereon. ("Vide Copy of Letter attached.")

Situation.—The site of the European Doctor's Bungalow is about 200 yards from the Sandys Thomas Memorial Hall in which the Association Meetings are held.

The situation is about in Mid-Dimbula, is $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Talawakelle Railway Station, near the Main Road, and a quarter

of a mile from Messrs. Jordon and Co.'s Dispensary, and therefore is convenient for the dispensing of drugs, and is the only place of its kind in Dimbula.

Control of Doctor.—The present European Doctor and the Bungalow are under the control of the District Association. The bungalow is vested in two Trustees, Messrs. A. A. Bowie, Talawakelle, and C. L. Bliss, Lindula. The Duke's Bungalow is leased to the European Doctor for five years at a rent sufficient to cover the premium on the Insurance. The Doctor agrees to keep the bungalow in a thorough state of repair at his own expense when the bungalow is handed over to him. Should the Doctor elect to leave the district or we appoint a successor, six months' notice is given on either side (vide the printed agreement between the Association and the European Doctor, attached hereto.)

General.—A suggestion has been advanced that a bungalow in the district might be leased for the Doctor. As far as is known there are two available, one of which probably would only be possible on a temporary lease, at the top end of the district.

The position therefore is inconvenient for the majority of the estates. The Doctor has agreed with the district to keep a mechanically-driven vehicle, therefore he is very mobile. There is the possibility that if he does not get a suitable residence to live in, he may become discontented. Another objection which it is desired to dispel is, that no laboratory is being asked for by the Doctor, but it is optional on behalf of the Doctor to use one of the rooms of his bungalow as such, the fittings of which would be his own property.

It might be mentioned that the old bungalow is situated on the worst plot of land on the whole site. As far as is known the bungalow was built some thirty to forty years ago, in the past what few repairs were carried out were executed by the previous European Doctor who was not under the control of the District Association, which the new man is. It will be the business of the officers of the Association in future to see that any bungalow that is built is maintained in good order, and not allowed to get into disrepair the old house has fallen into. When the Doctor's Bungalow has been put on to a satisfactory footing, the district buildings will all then be on a permanent basis. These buildings consist of the Sandys Thomas Memorial Hall, the Parsonage, and the Doctor's Bungalow; besides the three Churches of the district which are all vested in Trustees, and are, it is believed, in a good state of repair.

The plan and estimate provisionally sanctioned were the cheapest of three tenders submitted to the Committee for a sound house with cement floor, brick walls and iron roof.

(Signed) A. J. HAMILTON HARDING,
Chairman.

HUNTLEY WILKINSON, Honorary Secretary,
Dimbula Planters' Association.

The scale of retaining fees are:—Superintendent of estates, Rs. 20; Assistants, Rs. 10; Additional to families of above Rs. 25.

The scale of Doctor's charges to people covered by retaining fees are fixed as follows, in consideration of the fact that the Doctor has to keep a motor vehicle: (The Doctor has the option of further laying his views before the Committee in a year's time with regard to substituting a "Mileage Fee" or "Increase of Retaining Fees" instead of the charge of Rs. 10 per visit which used to be Rs. 7 in Doctor Drummond's time.)

Scale of Charges.—Superintendent and their families, Rs. 10, per visit; Assistants, Rs. 7-50, per visit; Maternity cases, Rs. 150 a.

a The covering fee shall be as above. This covers the engagement visit and any other visits during the last two months prior to confinement, which the Doctor may consider necessary as an ordinary precautionary routine and also any subsequent necessary visits after confinement. Visits asked for outside what the Doctor considers necessary shall be booked as separate visits not covered by the Re. 1-50 above mentioned.

It has also been laid down that no one is entitled to "book" the Doctor for a certain date, thereby shutting off the possibility of other subscribers having his services upon that day.

The Committee has fixed no limit for charges, per visit, to non-retainers, this being left entirely to the Doctor's discretion.

The Doctor has been asked to refer any misunderstanding which may arise to the Committee.

Night visits are not to be charged for at any higher rate.

There is to be five years agreement with six months' notice on either side between the Doctor and the district.

The Doctor shall keep and maintain a serviceable motor car or motor bicycle and an ordinary bicycle or horse (if he prefers it.) The appointment of district European Doctor is not transferable by the holder of the appointment, but the name of a successor suggested by him or "locum tenens" shall be first submitted to the Medical Committee with the right of appeal to the Association whose decision shall be final.

"The Duke's Bungalow" shall be leased to the Doctor for a like five years (after it has been put in a thoroughly good state of repair). The Doctor shall then keep it in such a good state of repair. He shall not be permitted to sub-let it without the sanction of the Committee. He shall pay a rent which will cover whatever Insurance the Association may be paying.

(Signed) HUNTLEY WILKINSON,
Hon. Secretary.

Balmoral, Agrapatna, 25th July, 1913, Branch Roads Department, Provincial Road Committee, Kandy.

A further circular stated that the estimate of the total expenditure was Rs. 16,000 and for the purposes of raising this money they had decided to ask all estates in the Dimbula and Punduloya districts to subscribe at the rate of 40 cents per acre. If all estates subscribed at this rate they could be able to return a substantial sum *pro rata*.

The CHAIRMAN detailed the events which had led up to this circular and said they did not propose to go further until they heard from the proprietors themselves. He appealed, however, for members to push the Scheme through.

Mr. LEFEUVRE asked how many estates had refused to join the Scheme.

The CHAIRMAN said no one had refused point blank to support it. There had been some temporary refusals on account of not having sufficient information.

The HON. SECRETARY remarked that very few had refused point blank and most were from Punduloya.

The CHAIRMAN said that Punduloya was not part of Dimbula, and if they supported the Bungalow Scheme at all they must congratulate themselves. They were hardly to be expected to support it.

Several members expressed the opinion that the doctor was being fairly well used by Punduloya district, and it was remarked by the Chairman that when the new Watagoda road was opened they would be able to use him still more.

There was a suggestion that Punduloya should contribute half, but this was not agreed to.

INCREASE IN BATTAs.

Mr. COX wrote as follows, but was not present to move the resolution that stood in his name :—

The HON. SECRETARY,
D.P.A.

Queenwood, Lindula,
June 7th, 1913.

SIR,
Please bring forward the following proposal at the next meeting :—

1. That this Association request the Government in their own interests to immediately amend the present rates of batta allowed to witnesses in Crown cases to a rate consistent with the present hotel prices, to which there is no reduction.
2. That all other Associations be requested to back this up.

(Signed) Yours faithfully,
M. C. COX.

Mr. MAITLAND thereupon moved it, and in support mentioned that with Mr. Cox they had been kept hanging about at Kandy for five days in connection with a case and were given Rs. 4-50. If any S. D. had a similar case and had to pay the difference out of his own pocket it would be rather hard on him.

Mr. COOK seconded.

Mr. BLISS, however, pointed out that it would lead to heavy expense, and there were many other things on which the money could be better spent.

The CHAIRMAN cited the trouble that ensued in getting the increase in jurors' batta.

On being put to the vote, however, the motion was carried by sixteen votes to five.

THE CHAIRMAN AND A PROTEST.

The CHAIRMAN said in reference to a letter which appeared in the press signed by "Old Hand" some time ago (*re* cattle diseases and goods-shed) :—It may interest the members of this Association to learn that in spite of the reflection cast on the officers of your Association in June last, under the disguise of "Old Hand," that both your Chairman and Hon. Secretary did their utmost to cope with the question of cattle disease directly the matter was brought to their notice through the ordinary channels. Your Chairman had inspected the goods-shed road, and had written to the General Manager of the railway on the subject prior to the letter referred to appearing in the press. It will, therefore, be realised that the attack made on my colleague and myself, in our capacity of Chairman and Hon. Secretary, was in the nature of a blow below the belt. I would also like to remind "Old Hand" and others that we have other duties to perform besides Association work, and that we do not charge the Association with the cost of any petrol or upkeep of our cars. If any member of the Association has any grievance to bring forward in future it will be obliging of him, if he will take the ordinary gentlemanly course of writing to the Association direct, or if he wishes to write to the press, to write above his own name, and not adopt a *nom de plume*. (Hear, hear.)

TALAWAKELLE-LINDULA—AGRAS ROAD.

The CHAIRMAN said this had been put on the agenda in case any member wished to say anything about it.

Mr. BAILLIE HAMILTON said the roads were past talking about.

Mr. MAITLAND proposed that the road in question be metalled twice a year and the heavier metal be put on.

Mr. GIBSON said that would double the cost.

Mr. BLISS raised the question of the steam-roller.

The CHAIRMAN said that they understood that this was for Dimbula use exclusively. He believed that it was now at the end of the Kotmale road, but that it would be back shortly.

Mr. COOPER proposed that a letter be sent to the P. W. D. with reference to the road between Talawakelle caddies and Middleton factory.

Mr. MEGGET seconded and said they had made a point of this portion of the road last year.

Other portions of the road were also referred to, but reference in the letter was confined to one particular stretch.

GUINEA GRASS.

The CHAIRMAN said that one estate in the district wanted to weed the sides of the roads, and to plant guinea grass and also to keep it clean. They had been refused this sanction by the road officers, and in Committee the gentlemen who wished to carry on this work had been asked to correspond with Government direct.

Mr. COOPER said there was the obvious objection against grass and weed which in time would block the drains.

A MEMBER: Encourage stray cattle. (Laughter.)

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

A good deal of discussion ensued on this point in Committee, and the only matter allowed to become known public was the following letter:—

MOTOR LORRY TRAFFIC, LINDULA-AGRAS
BRANCH ROAD.

F. W. LEFEUVRE Esq.,
Chairman,
Local Committee,
Balmoral, Agrapatana.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that upon a proposal submitted to Government to improve the Lindula-Agras Branch Road to make it suitable for motor lorry traffic, the Public Works Department has drawn up an estimate amounting to Rs. 7,762.

2. After due consideration H. E. the Officer Administering the Government has now been pleased to order that half the cost of improving the Lindula-Agras road for this purpose shall be borne by Government on the condition that the land required is given free and that no claim is made for damage caused by spoil.

3. I have to request you to be good enough to make this offer to the estates interested and to report if they agree to the conditions named.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) G. S. SEXTON,
Chairman.

Mr. LEFEUVRE mentioned that several estates had refused to give the land for the improvement.

The CHAIRMAN made an appeal for members not to spoil the project, which he hinted was in rather a delicate stage and might be withdrawn.

MINOR ROADS.

Mr. A. C. CHAMBERLIN wrote asking for a grant under this head of Rs. 50 for rickshaw bridge across the Agra Oya, but after some slight discussion it was felt that the bridge would not be of general utility, and it was suggested that the bridge should be put up and if found of utility the Association would then consider the question of contribution. Meanwhile the matter was shelved.

RAILWAY DEMURRAGE.

The SECRETARY reported that he had written the letters referred to at the last meeting under this heading, and that was the reason for this question being put on the agenda.

The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the charge for weighing again when the stated weight is disputed, but Mr. BLISS pointed out that he had always considered it a reasonable charge and the matter thereupon dropped.

DISTRICT CHAPLAIN.

The announcement of the appointment of the Rev. A. LeFeuvre as district chaplain was made, and it was stated that he would take up his duties on October 1st.

THANKS.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mrs. Jocelyn Thomas for the interest she had taken in the parsonage, and Mr. J. H. Thomas briefly expressed his wife's thanks at the compliment.

CARDAMOM THEFT—PLANTS PESTS.

The correspondence which has already been given in the Planters' Association Committee minutes on this subject was then read. There appeared to be little interest in the matter, as was also the case in connection with the notification of estates and plant pests.

With regard to this Mr. LAYARD pointed out that it was felt that little good could come out of the proclaiming of estates while native estates and land were not brought in. As a matter of fact the Ordinance was for any cultivated or uncultivated land and so included estates.

A MEMBER: Do weeds come in?

A VOICE: Yes, dead or alive.

Eventually the following resolution was adopted—
"That this Association is strongly of opinion that compulsory proclaiming of plant pests on individual estates is most desirable."

The CHAIRMAN also expressed the hope that the members would do their best to get rid of and prevent the spread of oxa's.

SANITARY LECTURE.

Mr. MEGGET said he had suggested that Dr. Hunt should lecture to the members on cooly sanitation, from which he felt they would get some valuable information. The suggestion met with a good deal of favour.

LINDULA GRAVEYARD.

A congregational meeting asked Mr. Halliley, the only trustee of Lindula graveyard now in Ceylon, to sell plots in the churchyard for the exclusive right of burial therein. It was decided that Kotagala congregation be asked to call a meeting to elicit whether they would like their graveyard to be kept as a permanent record. Members are reminded that the subscription to the General Purposes Fund is Rs. 10 this year, and they will be asked for the other Rs. 5.

TELEPHONES.

A meeting in connection with telephones followed the General meeting at which rules were proposed and passed with a few amendments. A letter was also read from the Colonial Secretary to the effect that the Kandy-Nuwara Eliya trunk lines are overloaded, and that no more stations can be added at present, and that no local systems can be linked to the trunk line unless the overhead connections are on a metallic circuit basis.

PUSELLAWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Pussellawa Planters' Association was held at the Pussellawa Court on Wednesday, 30th July, afternoon Mr. Geo. Benzie presided, and there were present:—Messrs. P. P. C. Walker (Hon. Secretary), M. V. Clapham, W. H. Murray, W. F. C. Rolt, Carr Hammond, J. F. Templer, J. A. Woods, Gilbert Fenning, H. M. K. Brown, A. H. Frazer, Sir Francis Sibbald-Scott and Francis Talbot (visitor.)

VOTE OF CONDOLENCE.

The CHAIRMAN: Before we begin, gentlemen, with the business arranged for the day I beg to propose that a sincere vote of condolence be conveyed to Mrs. MacGregor on the great loss that she and the Association have sustained by the death of Mr. William MacGregor.

The resolution was passed in silence, all members standing.

It was resolved: "That the Hon. Secretary, Mr. P. C. Walker, do communicate this to Mrs. MacGregor."

PLANT PESTS.

After the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed the Chairman submitted the resolution of the Committee of Agricultural Experiments sent by Mr. John Still, Secretary of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, re compulsory proclaiming of plant pests on individual estates.

The CHAIRMAN said that it was impossible to foresee any advantage accruing from the proclamation of individual estates, so long as small patches of land or native gardens which intersect the district were exempted from any obligation. These small gardens were so extensively affected that the liability of infection from an adjoining garden or its transmission from a patch of cultivation in the vicinity still remained, despite the proclamation of an estate and the necessary precautions adopted to secure immunity from plant pests. Demarcations of a district, after careful inquiry as to the extent of the range of a particular pest, ought to be proclaimed, instead of defined individual estates or areas, in order to benefit them or the district. That is the reason why individual estates should not be proclaimed.

Mr. W. F. C. ROLT mentioned that the top of Stellenberg and the lower part of Hollebodde are not affected by the shot-hole borer.

Resolved: "That the meeting is of opinion that no advantage could be gained by proclaiming individual estates owing to the native gardens or estates infested with the shot-hole borer."

ROADS.

The Hon. SECRETARY read the following letter from Mr. H. M. Picken.

Beaumont, Pussellawa, July 30th, 1913.

THE CHAIRMAN,
Pussellawa Planters' Association.

SIR,

I regret that owing to my accident, I shall not be able to attend the meeting to-day. Re roads, with reference to my letter sent to the Secretary a few days ago with enclosures, the road referred to is the Pussellawa-Nilambe. Some time ago the Korala of this district came to me with a complaint about the state of the road, especially through the Dunakawella village. He said that petitions had been sent to the R. M. with no result. When in Kandy I spoke to the A. G. A. and told him that as far as Europeans were concerned the greater part of this road was not used by them. The only part that did not concern us was kept up by me on behalf of Beaumont, Melfort, and Kaloogalla estates, for which we had a grant from Government for half the work done. Possibly the Association may think it is no business of theirs to interfere. The D. M. O. has to use the road, and it is now almost impossible to take a horse over it. Any repairs done should be paid for by the Government and villagers entirely, as they and they only use the road.

Yours Sincerely,

(Signed) H. M. PICKEN.

In accordance with the suggestion made at the last meeting Mr. Westland, Mr. Walker and Mr. Brown, the D. E., motored over the road between Peradeniya and Nawalapitiya, in Mr. Westland's car which he kindly used for the good work, the object being to mark the worst corners and interview the native owners to ascertain if they would give the corners free of compensation, some were willing, but others were not very struck with the *pro bono publico* part of the business. Mr. ROLT offered to take the D. E. over the Pussellawa road.

Mr. W. F. T. ROLT said that there were very bad corners in Pussellawa roads as well which require attention. It has been promised to have them remedied immediately, so far no action, apparently, had been taken. He thought, that Government might act under the Road Reservation Ordinance, but for the native land owners. Although the villagers too used these roads, the Government would not act at all unless they defrayed half the cost. He thought it time to ask the District Engineer to request the necessary authorities to move in the matter.

The discussion then terminated as it was considered a subject for the Government to move and not a matter for the Planters' Association.

CROSS ROADS AND THE POLICE.

Mr. W. F. C. ROLT said that, if he was in order, he would like to call the attention of the meeting to the lack of police supervision at cross-roads. He had found constables at Gampola, instead of attending to the duties for which they were told off, seated inside boutiques. He had written to the Superintendent of Police complaining of this kind of neglect.

The CHAIRMAN said that he too had observed the absence of constables at cross-roads, and sometime back an accident was narrowly averted. Being written to, regarding this state of affairs, the Superintendent of Police explained that the police had other duties to attend to and all complaints of this nature would be dealt with by making other arrangements.

Mr. W. F. C. ROLT further said that recently there was a festival with people moving in all directions, and was no police supervision at a most dangerous place. It was very important that there should be supervision on festival days.

The CHAIRMAN said that it was the most dangerous corner of all, and agreed that a policeman ought to be stationed there.

Mr. ROLT said that the boutiques there ought to be pulled down.

Resolved:—"That the Superintendent of Police at Kandy be written to regarding the matter."

LABOUR AND COAST AGENCY.

Resolved:—"That the resolution from Sabaragamuwa be supported."

TEA, RUBBER AND CARDAMOM THEFTS.

The following letter was read by the Hon. Secretary:—

TEA.

Edward Hill Estate,
Pussellawa, July 13th, 1913.

HON. SECRETARY,
Pussellawa Planters' Association,

SIR, Atgala Estate, Gampola.

I beg to inform you that I had an interview with Mr. VanLangenberg on the 11th instant, and discussed with him

fully concerning tea thefts and the proposal brought in by me before the sub-Committee appointed to consider same. Mr. VanLangenberg placed his views of the matter before me but he thought before anything was done the best course would be for him to meet the sub-Committee, and for the sub-Committee to resolve on exactly what particular matters relating to the subject they had to look into and report on to the Association. He would then be able to render whatever assistance he could in respect of those matters. Mr. VanLangenberg thought that unless we met and discussed what exactly we were to go into, we might enter into a number of details which, however interesting they may be, may prove quite unnecessary for us to have dealt with at this stage. We have everything to ask Government for assistance in this matter, and I hope you will please summon a meeting of the sub-Committee for any day after the 8th proximo.

I beg to remain, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) H. J. P. SAMARASEKERA JR.

It was agreed that the Sub-Committee should discuss this at the next General P. A. meeting.

Mr. ROLT complained that he had lost 5,000 tea plants, which had been rooted from 20 acres near Melfort, and there was a constant increase of thefts of this nature, including tea plucked, regarding which he saw the Hon. Mr. G. S. Saxton at Kandy.

The CHAIRMAN did not think that the Government Agent could do anything in the matter but, considering the inefficiency of the headmen entrusted with the detection and prevention of theft of this kind, it was expedient to apprise him of the existing lamentable state of affairs.

Resolved:—"That the Government Agent of the Central Province be apprised of the inefficiency of the headmen in preventing thefts of tea plants from nurseries and of tea plucked."

CARDAMOMS.

The Hon. SECRETARY read a letter from the Hon. Secretary, Ceylon Planters' Association, enclosing copy of a letter written by him to Government and the reply; and asking for the information on the question asked by the Colonial Secretary whether any particular kind of cardamoms should be specified in the Ordinance.

Resolved that the new regulations do apply to cardamoms in any state, whether dry or green.

POSTAL DELAYS.

The Hon. SECRETARY brought to the notice of the meeting the complaint of Mr. E. D. Beresford Bruce regarding the inconvenience caused by the non-delivery of mails before 8 a.m.

Mr. ROLT said that a considerable staff was employed at the Gampola Post Office, and that this rule might well be altered for this district. Mr. Walker pointed out the great inconvenience of the existing rule, as tappal was delivered at 6-30 a.m. consequently another cooly had to be sent for parcels or registered letters after 8 a.m.

Resolved:—"That the Postmaster-General be written to regarding the non-delivery of mails before 8 a.m."

TODDY TAVERN.

The following copy of a letter sent to the Government Agent of the Central Province by Mr. Gilbert Fenning was read by the Hon. Secretary.

Sogama Estate,
Passellawa, May 26th, 1913.

THE HON. THE GOVERNMENT AGENT,
SIR,

C. P. Kandy,

A few months ago a toddy tavern was established in the village of Wahngapitiya on the Gampola-Nuwara Eliya cart road between the 20th and 21st mile posts.

It is close on my estate boundary, and within a stone's throw of the lower Sogama lines.

There has always been a considerable trade in illicit arrack, just in this vicinity, and more than one place is under suspicion, accordingly. I made no objection at the time to the establishment of this tavern, as I wished to give it time to see whether its advent would affect the sale of illicit arrack. As far as I am able to judge up to the present, there has been no reduction in the illicit sale of arrack, and drunkenness among my labour down there is on the increase.

Passella factory having been recently burnt down, I am building a new factory on my lower division, quite close to this tavern, and have to put up more lines there also, there being no other suitable spot. Accordingly I would request you kindly to have this tavern removed to a less objectionable site, as early as possible. Its present position is bound to be a source of trouble when the factory is finished.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) GILBERT FENNING.

Mr. GILBERT FENNING said that Mr. J. D. Brown, the Superintendent of Excise, who came to Sogama to see him regarding the tavern, agreed with him and promised to have the site of the tavern removed either before the first of September, 1913, or before the end of the current year.

The Hon. SECRETARY then read a notice sent by the Government Agent inviting verbal or written representations regarding the proposed sites for Pupuressa-Miyana-golla, and Galpaga arrack taverns and sites for Kurukudde and Wattedena toddy taverns.

The meeting considered that the descriptions of sites forwarded were too meagre to trace them precisely.

EXCISE REFORM.

Mr. ROLT said that he had noticed a marked diminution of drunkenness since the institution of the Excise reforms, whereas before that the coolies were accustomed to go to neighbouring villages to get drunk on toddy and create disturbances in the lines. This state of affairs was now happily non-existent. He regretted, however, that the younger generation was now being gradually educated up to drinking. It was considered formerly a disgrace to be seen drinking, but now youngsters and elders mixed together inviting each other to have a drink. The elders formerly used to caution the younger folk against drinking.

Mr. G. FENNING also agreed that the rising generation was being educated up to drinking.

The CHAIRMAN said that in his opinion drunkenness was on the increase, and illicit sales went on just the same. It was thought by establishing toddy taverns the coolies might take to toddy, but he found that they drank both toddy and arrack now. (Laughter.)

The Hon. SECRETARY said that the increased number of taverns on the roadside was certainly teaching the coolies to drink now in public without feeling any shame, which they did not do before.

Resolved:—"That the coolies being taught to drink in public or the roadside was liable to have a very bad moral effect on the rising generation."

The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

August 1st, 1913.

KEGALLE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

HOSPITALS AND ROADS.

QUESTION OF MOTOR TRANSPORT.

CASE OVER P. W. D. COOLIES.

A general meeting of the Kegalle Planters' Association was held at the Kegalle Resthouse on Saturday, August 2nd. Mr. Jackson Smale presided, and there were present: Messrs. A. E. Barrs, G. Harries, E. F. Gould, H. de L. Tupper, C. A. Hall Hall, P. F. Ondaatje, R. B. Taylor, W. G. Bayley, G. O. Trevaldwyne, J. I. Jamieson, E. G. Ward Simpson, J. H. Lukin, C. T. Sinclair, R. N. Rowbotham, W. Hermon, C. Hermon, J. R. Thistle (Hon. Secretary), and visitors; Messrs. J. Baldwin, E. A. Tarbet, A. L. Moore, C. A. Farr and A. Payne.

The notice calling the meeting was read, and minutes of last meeting confirmed.

(Correspondence.)

PROPOSED LIQUID FUEL INSTALLATION.

The following letter was read from Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co.:—

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kegalle Planters' Association, Kegalle.

DEAR SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 2nd instant, we beg to inform you that there is not sufficient demand yet to warrant the expense of erecting a Liquid Fuel Installation at Polgahawela or Kegalle.

Can you give us particulars of probable requirements in the near future?

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) DELMEGE, FORSYTH & Co.

The Hon. SECRETARY said he had got figures showing the probable requirements for 1914 and 1915.

It was decided to send figures showing the probable liquid fuel consumption for 1914/1915 to Messrs. Delmege Forsyth & Co., and ask if they would erect an installation.

PLANT PESTS.

After some discussion it was resolved: "That the meeting is of the opinion that compulsory proclaiming of Plant Pests on individual estates is desirable in the interests of the planting industry."

HOSPITALS.

The CHAIRMAN said he was pleased to inform the meeting that an Assistant Medical Officer had been appointed to the Kegalle Hospital, but, though the appointment was made a considerable time ago, up to date the Assistant Medical Officer has not yet arrived.

Mr. BARRS proposed that the P.C.M.O. should be written to and asked when the Assistant Medical Officer would take up his duties at Kegalle.

The Hon. SECRETARY said that he had heard nothing more about the proposed hospital at Aranayaka. It was decided to approach Government with regard to this hospital.

The CHAIRMAN said that the Undugoda Hospital had been nearly completed. There had been a considerable delay in the building of this hospital, and he proposed that the P.W.D. be written to and asked by what date they expected to have the hospital finished. This was decided on.

ROADS.

The CHAIRMAN said that Mr. Barrs, their member on the D. R. Committee, had got a list of all the district roads showing the Government grants on same and estate subscription. The different road requirements were carefully gone into.

Mr. HARRIES said that the work on the Morantota-Arandara Road, connecting the Kegalle-Bulatkohupitiya road with the Pindeniya road was progressing very slowly. The D. R. C. funds were not sufficient, and he asked the meeting to support him in making an application to Government to vote the full sum required for the completion of the road, either on loan or as a special vote. He proposed that Government be asked whether they would be prepared to vote the entire sum required for the opening up of the Morantota-Arandara road, either on loan, or as a special vote, as the D. R. C. Funds were totally insufficient.

This was unanimously supported.

The Hon. SECRETARY said he had written to the District Engineer and forwarded the resolution passed at the last meeting re bad state of roads. The first reply he received was that the District Engineer was ill, and so had not been able to attend to the matter. To his second letter he received the following reply from the Acting District Engineer, as the District Engineer was away on sick leave:—

25th July, 1913.

HON. SECRETARY,
Kegalle Planters' Association.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that I inspected the section in question and find that the road on the whole is in fair order.

Near Ambepusse R. H. and Gasnave estate, it is in bad order, due to wash from R. H. premises and the estate. I am in correspondence with those concerned on the subject, and trust to have this rectified. Material for repairs is ready, and I am awaiting favourable weather to put the work in hand. I consider the vote as at present allowed sufficient for the needs of the district. This is the time of year that road repairs are started, but owing to the complete failure of the monsoon rains, nothing has as yet been done in repairs.

Re Karundupons R' Kana road, nearly the whole of the earth work in the deviation has been completed, and the Maha Oya Bridge in hand. The two culverts in question have been made safe for traffic. In connection with this I have to inform you that at the time the complaint was made the road was closed to traffic. This road will have to be closed to traffic from time to time, when the improvement to it are taken up.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) D. A. DARTLE, D. E.

Mr. BAYLEY begged to differ from the District Engineer's statement that the culverts were in a safe state for traffic, and he considered that the culverts were not safe.

Mr. ROWBOTHAM supported Mr. Bayley, and said he had lately been down that road, and that the culverts in his opinion was not safe for traffic.

Mr. TAYLOR said the corners on the Kegalle-Undugoda road were cut back, and in some places no drains had been cut next to the banks. When the heavy rains came, the water, instead of being carried away by the drain, flooded the road and washed over into the paddy field below, carrying away the road metal and part of the banks. It seemed to him that all the money had been spent on cutting away the banks. This road was a very important one over which went the produce and requirements of 13,000 acres. One part of the road had only been newly

metalled, two months ago, and the cart ruts were already two to three inches deep, and the Chairman said the trouble was that the D. R. C. had not enough of labour.

Mr. TAYLOR said that the D. E. pays more for Sinhalese than any estate, and there were plenty of Sinhalese to be obtained along this road. It was only a question of cutting a side drain, and any Sinhalese could do that. He considered it was merely the want of supervision.

The CHAIRMAN agreed with Mr. Taylor that there was want of supervision on all the roads in the district. He proposed that the Director of Public Works be written to on the disgraceful condition of the roads in the district, of the delay of getting repairs done, and of immediate need of proper supervision.

This was unanimously passed.

Mr. GOULD proposed that the P. W. D. be asked to put up a railing at the sharp bend near the 2nd mile on the Kegalle-Undugoda Road. This was a very dangerous bend with a drop 10 ft. on both sides into the paddy field.

Mr. BARRS seconded, and said that the P. W. D. had been approached before about this bend.

Mr. TUPPER said that the corner at the 37th mile on the Colombo-Kegalle Road had been cut back, but the caddy, which the P. W. D. had been written to about, was still there, and the cutting back of the bank had done no good, as the caddy still blocked the view of the road.

Mr. SINCLAIR proposed that the P. W. D. be asked to have the corner below Ambanpitiya Factory cut back as this was another had corner.

Mr. BAYLEY said that near the 3rd mile on the Mavarella-Rambukkana Road the road had been washed away about 30 feet over a year ago, and up to date it had not been repaired, and was in a very dangerous state.

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

The CHAIRMAN was pleased to inform the meeting that Government was prepared to permit the use of motor lorries from Kegalle to Undugoda 10th mile on condition that the lorries travel at the rate of 4 miles per hour on the steep part of the road.

Mr. Sheriff Mitchell's letter *re* motor transport was read, and the Hony. Secretary was asked to circularise the district and get the figures required.

LABOUR.

Mr. HALL HALL, in a long speech, said that he had taken on a P. W. D. overseer and his gang of coolies on a Tundu from the overseer, with Police Magistrate's discharge tickets. The District Engineer instituted a case in the Kegalle Court against the coolies for leaving without his permission. He lost his case, and lodged an appeal which he won. In appeal it was held that, as he paid the coolies, they could not leave without his permission, or one month's notice. The coolies were on the road now, and the overseer had lost his advances. He thought it was a scandalous thing that Government allowed their overseers to take on coolies and advance them money, but when the overseer left, the coolies could not go with him without the District Engineer's permission or giving a month's notice. The overseer was the loser.

The CHAIRMAN thought the best thing to do was to refer the matter to the Ceylon Planters' Association and ask them to approach Government on the matter.

This was decided on.

Lists calling for contributions to the London School of Tropical Medicine and the Kandy Cemetery Fund were passed round, and met with good support.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

(Signed) J. R. THISTLE,
Hony. Secretary, K. P. A.

GALLE DISTRICT PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION

COMPLAINTS AGAINST ROADS AND BRIDGES.

LABOUR RESOLUTION REJECTED.

A general meeting of the Galle District Planters' Association was held in the New Oriental Hotel on Saturday, at 1 p.m., preceded by a Committee meeting. In the absence of Captain M. J. Alder on, Chairman of the Association, Mr. C. G. Simmonds was voted to the chair. The other members present were Mrs. E. D. Bowman, Messrs. A. C. Hayley, H. R. Colquhoun, M. H. Lushington, J. Scott, J. Sirimane, A. W. Winter, B. de G. Mourant, S. H. Titley, Charles Northway, A. Griffiths and Sydney Blann (Hon. Secretary). Messrs. S. Daly Winter, Gordon Hunt and H. V. Parry were present as visitors.

LABOUR FEDERATION.

This was the first item on the agenda, and the CHAIRMAN invited those present to express their views on the subject. A somewhat lengthy discussion followed, several suggestions were made and views expressed. Eventually the CHAIRMAN said the question was whether the Galle Association should support the motion. Put to the vote, the motion was passed by a majority of 8 voting in favour.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE K. V. LABOUR RESOLUTION.

The CHAIRMAN next read a letter from the Hon. Secretary, Kelani Valley P. A., forwarding the resolution proposed by Mr. WYNELL MAYOW, and also the reply to the effect that the following resolution was passed at a Committee meeting of the Galle Planters' Association on June 14th:—"That this Association prefers to wait and see the result of the present Labour Commission at the Coast."

THE MATALE RESOLUTIONS.

A letter from the Matale Planters' Association enclosing the resolution passed at a meeting of that Association suggesting certain amendments of the Labour Ordinance was read.

The reply of the Galle P. A. was also read enclosing the following resolution passed at a Committee meeting of the Association held on June 14th:—"That the Galle District Planters' Association prefers to leave the matter in the hands of the Parent Association."

COOLY DEPOT IN COLOMBO.

A letter from the Hon. Secretary of the Sabaragamuwa P. A., enclosing a resolution suggesting that the Ceylon Labour Commissioner be asked to open a depot in Colombo, similar to the one at Tuticorin was read.

It was resolved that the Association had every confidence in the system employed by the present Labour Commissioner.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

The next item on the agenda was the consideration of district roads.

Mr. LUSHINGTON said he had written to the Hon. the Government Agent, S. P., on the subject of the instability of bridges. The reply he received was that the bridges he referred to were not so bad as they appeared.

Mr. A. W. WINTER remarked that some of the bridges on the Baddegama road were in a worse state than they appeared to be.

The CHAIRMAN then read the following extract from a letter received:—"Mahadunda bridge, this bridge is in a disgraceful state and unsafe for wheel traffic. As to the road from Ambalangoda to Elpitiya, the word "road" is only a misnomer, it is nothing but a track of the worst description."

Mr. LUSHINGTON said that the supervising officer was not a trained man.

Mr. WINTER said the ferry boat on the Baddegama road was unsafe. The Government Agent had occasion to visit Baddegama lately, but could not get across the ferry as the boat could not bear the weight of the car. Either the present boat should be properly repaired or replaced by a new one. The Wanduramba road too required attention, parts of this road were nothing more than drains. The repair of this road would be useful to Udugama folk as well. Sometime ago he was compelled to go over this road and it was in a disgraceful condition. He thought he was right when he said that this road was purposely neglected to divert traffic. Thousands of acres had been sold by the Crowd. This land when opened could only be served by this road. He submitted that the Chairman and all other Udugama folk were in a way losers.

The CHAIRMAN said that he saw the force of the argument, but the road was not frequently used. He was of opinion that they might with advantage get some more important roads put into proper order.

It was resolved:—"That the attention of the authorities be called to the bad condition of the Elpitiya-Ambalangoda road and the Wanduramba-Baddegama road. At Mr. WINTER's request the following was added: "That, should the authorities again close a road they be asked to make provision for another outlet."

HOSPITALS.

Mr. LUSHINGTON said a hospital was urgently required for Elpitiya. He had brought up the matter twice before. He formally moved:—"That it is imperative that a general hospital should be erected without delay at some central position in Elpitiya, as there is no accommodation for serious cases at the present dispensary."

Mr. NORTHWAY thought that, to begin with, they might urge the necessity of stationing a fully-qualified D. M. O. there.

Resolved:—"That an application be made for the stationing of a fully-qualified District Medical Officer."

RESTHOUSES.

The CHAIRMAN read an extract from a letter as follows:—"The Sanitary conditions of the kitchen departments leave much to be desired, and some attempt should be made to enforce cleanliness."

Mr. LUSHINGTON said that the Elpitiya and Ambalangoda resthouses were absolutely filthy.

ROAD DANGERS.

Mr. NORTHWAY spoke against the practice of piling metal on the roadsides. About three nights ago he nearly went into a drain in trying to avoid one.

Reference was also made by some present to the instability of bridges and to coconut trees overhanging the roads. Resolved to call attention to the bad state of the bridges on the road from Batapola to Hickaduwa.

COCONUT THEFTS.

A letter from Mr. Garvin was read:—"The meeting was informed that Mr. Garvin was unwell and unable to attend. It was resolved:—"That attention be called to the want of Police Supervision in the Elpitiya district."

THE NURSE SCHEME.

The CHAIRMAN said that Mr. A. C. Hayley had consented to attend to this matter.

J.P. AND U.P.M. FOR ELPITIYA.

Mr. NORTHWAY said a J.P. was needed.

The CHAIRMAN said Mr. Alderson had been nominated at a previous meeting, and he read a letter from the G. A. to the effect that as there was a magistrate at Balapitiya a J. P. was not necessary.

Mr. LUSHINGTON said that Mr. Northway lived in the very centre of the district, and was therefore the right man to be appointed. He then proposed that Mr. Northway's name be submitted to Government.

Mr. MOURANT seconded.

MEAT SUPPLY.

A discussion took place as to the scarcity of meat at Galle and the quality supplied. The Chairman said he left the matter in the hands of Mr. Hayley, who was a member of the Municipal Council.

VOTE OF THANKS.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chair. Galle Cor.—August 10th.

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